California
LABOR
Federation

October 8, 2025

Senator Menjivar
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support, SB-52, Senator Caroline Menjivar

Dear Senator Menjivar:

The CA Labor Federation writes regarding our support for your "Emergency Service Worker Protection and Wellness Act" bill and its role in implementing improved protections and benefits for emergency service workers through injury and disability related retirement benefits, fair overtime and scheduling during declared emergencies, and guaranteed no-cost trauma counseling.

Facing constant unpredictability, stress, burnout, and a lack of resources on the job, providing emergency service workers with the necessary help for them to continue efficiently doing their jobs is something we can't overlook. If the mental and physical circumstances of underperforming emergency service workers go unchecked, then those workers become more susceptible to mistakes that can lead to preventable deaths and severe lawsuits. By providing emergency service workers with the mental health resources they need and the proper pay and benefits they earn for putting their health on the line, job satisfaction and efficiency can be maintained at a level that ensures that mistakes are prevented. Furthermore, by extending the definition of "emergency service workers" to ensure all emergency service workers are impacted by the bill, the emergency service workers who have been overlooked by today's institutions will be able to receive equal and fair compensation along with their coworkers. Lastly, by involving the Department of Industrial Relations and the California Office of Emergency Services to oversee the expanded protections' implementation and compliance, it holds jurisdictions accountable and ensures that the funds from the bill are used properly to improve the health and compensation of emergency service workers.

For this reason, the CA Labor Federation respectfully supports the bill.

Sincerely,

The California Labor Federation
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