(On letterhead)

[DATE]

The Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes

State Capitol, Room 2175

Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: AB 2595 (Reyes) – Homeless Youth Set-Aside**

**Position: Support**

Dear Assembly Member Reyes,

On behalf of [Organization], I am writing in support of AB 2595, as proposed to be amended, which will ensure that there is a specific set-aside for youth experiencing homelessness out of the State’s appropriation to supportive services to combat homelessness.

[Insert info about your organization and how youth have been impacted by COVID-19]

California has one of the highest rates of youth experiencing homelessness in the nation; with a growing number of youth finding themselves living in precarious and dangerous situations due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, which could lead them to soon be housing insecure or homeless, as is the result in previous economic recessions.

Youth experiencing homelessness have a specific set of needs that have to be considered in order to provide them the best possible care. These youth, who are overwhelmingly youth of color and/or LGBTQ+ identifying, require and deserve culturally competent and age-appropriate services. With half of all chronically homeless adults reporting being homeless as youth, specifically combatting youth experiencing homelessness by ensuring a set-aside of funds is an imperative and proactive component to mitigating California’s homelessness crisis overall.

AB 2595’s commitment to serving some of California’s most vulnerable populations and strategically combatting California’s homelessness crisis in the process, underscores the Legislature’s commitment to preventing and ending homelessness among young people in the state.

AB 2595’s set-aside for youth in state programs will help save and assist countless young people’s lives, and decrease the number of individuals who could be dealing with chronic homelessness and health concerns as a result of the public health and economic consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

For these reasons, [Organization] is pleased to support your bill, AB 2595.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title, Organization]