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March 12, 2021

Ms. Keely Martin Bosler, Director
Department of Finance
Room 1145, State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Bosler:

On February 25, the Administration announced it augmented the Rapid Response Fund by transferring \$28 million from the Disaster Response-Emergency Operations Account (DREOA). These funds will be used to assist community-based organizations in providing shelter, transportation, medical care, and other services to newly arriving migrants who had been subject to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP).

As you know, the DHS recently announced the Port of Entry at San Ysidro has started processing individuals who had been subject to the MPP.

I applaud the effort the Administration is making to ensure public health measures are in place and newly arriving migrants are being screened, tested and quarantined as necessary, and are receiving medical care and wrap-around services including food, transportation and case management services. The \$28 million will help protect public health and will make sure these new Californians receive the medical care they need.

As the state continues to spend General Fund resources on COVID-19-related response activities, I encourage the Administration to aggressively pursue reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Biden Administration has directed FEMA to provide assistance at a 100 percent federal cost share which will help offset a significant amount of the state's response expenditures. We need to ensure that Californians are benefiting from all available resources and the state is maximizing the use of pandemic-related federal funding. It is critical that we use our limited General Fund resources to help California recover from the

educational, economic and social impacts of the pandemic. The more federal funding the state receives means the more General Fund will be available for education, safety net, environmental programs and other critical state goals and services. I look forward to working with you and our federal partners in seeking all available funds and ensuring timely distribution of those funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Skinner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy Skinner
Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee