



March 1, 2021

The Honorable Randy G. Voepel
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 774 (Voepel)

Dear Assemblymember Voepel:

The California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) writes in strong support of Assembly Bill 774, which would establish a taskforce to improve senior legal services in California. CARA is California's largest grassroots advocacy organization, representing over 1 million members through our 300+ affiliated organizations.

Existing law requires the California Department of Aging to establish a task force of certain members to study and make recommendations to the Legislature on the improvement of legal services delivery to senior citizens in California by exploring specified matters, including ways to ensure uniformity in the provision of legal services throughout the state and the possible establishment of a statewide legal hotline for seniors.

AB 774 would require the department to establish a similar task force to assess the implementation of the recommendations made pursuant to the above-mentioned provisions, make additional recommendations by exploring the same matters explored by the initial task force, and to report the assessment and make its recommendations to the Legislature on or before September 1, 2023.

Many seniors find it very difficult to find legal assistance whether it is with housing issues, elder abuse claims, and other matters. We must establish access to legal services throughout California that is easy to find and easy to access. AB 444 will do just this.

For all these reasons, CARA urges support of AB 774.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Hene Kelly".

Hene Kelly
CARA Legislative Director
415-533-5244

CARA/ 600 Grand Ave. #410/ Oakland, CA 94610/ 510-663-4086/ www.californialliance.org