



Human Lives. Human Connection.™

September 4, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Room 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2423 (Mathis)
Status: To Enrollment
Position: Request Signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

The [California Speech Language Hearing Association \(CSHA\)](#) respectfully requests your signature on **AB 2423 (Mathis)** when it reaches your desk. The measure would require the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to review and update, on a regular basis, rate models per the cost inputs available at the time of the review and post the updated rate models on its website no later than January 1 of the following year.

CSHA represents approximately 3,000 speech-language pathologists (SLPs), speech-language pathologist assistants (SLPAs), audiologists, students and other related professionals working in education and health care settings in California. CSHA members provide critical evidence-based services and supports to students with exceptional needs, including those from diverse populations in California's public and private school settings. In the health care setting, CSHA members provide medically necessary services that result in positive health outcomes and an enhanced quality of life.

AB 2423 proposes that DDS examine and update provider rate models on a regular basis -- every other year. The bill addresses a long-standing funding issue related to the level of rates for service providers. Regular updating will help to ensure providers receive resources to provide those within the intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) community with the services and care they deserve.

Many speech language pathologists provide services through the DDS in the Early Intervention program funded by the state. CSHA appreciates the state's commitment to improve access to services from the DDS and urges you to continue to support needed improvements and agreed upon rate increase for service providers. AB 2423 is a valuable step in continuing improvement.

For these reasons, CSHA respectfully requests you sign AB 2423 when it reaches your desk.

Thank you for your consideration. If you would like additional information please contact our legislative advocates Andrea Ball and Laura Wasco at andrea@ballfrostgroup.com and laura@ballfrostgroup.com.

Sincerely,

Robert McKinney

Robert McKinney, M.A., CCC-SLP
CSHA President – Elect/Chair of Advocacy Committee

Copy: Assemblymember Devon Mathis