

ITEM #1
9/15/2025

From: Ernie Gonzales <EGonzales@CalNurses.Org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 2:41 PM
To: Nerland, Paul
Cc: District 3; District 5; District 4; District 1; District 2; Clerk/BOS; Magill, Hollis; Prado, Joe; De La Torre, Gilbert
Subject: CNA Unit 7 Letter to County of Fresno
Attachments: CNA letter to County of Fresno CAO Paul Nerland.pdf

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Mr. Nerland,

Please find attached a letter from CNA Unit 7 nurses from the Public Health Department. We appreciate your attention to this matter, and we eagerly await your timely response.

Best regards,

Ernie Gonzales

California Nurses Association | Labor Representative

egonzales@calnurses.org | 559-803-7106 | PST

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Nurses
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August 27, 2025

Paul Nerland
County Administrative Officer
County of Fresno
2281 Tulare St. #304, Fresno Ca. 93721

Mr. Nerland

We are concerned about potential budget cuts in Fresno County and are aware that the board of Supervisors has pledged to protect public safety from cuts. It is important to recognize that public health plays a vital role in ensuring public safety, preventing disease outbreaks, maternal and child health, and chronic disease prevention. A strong public health system is crucial for the safety and well-being of all residents, and its effectiveness relies on the dedicated front-line health care workers involved.

If you and the Board are considering reductions in public health, we ask you to review management's structure. In recent years, there has been an increase in administrative and management positions, while the number of public health nurses providing direct care, conducting fieldwork, and delivering essential services—has not matched the rising demands of our community. This situation has placed a burden on the current nursing staff resulting in heavy workloads and impacting on the quality of care.

For instance, the county's California Children's Services program has experienced a rise in administrative and management roles, growing from 3 in 2020 to 9 positions recently, whereas there has been a reduction of 4 pediatric care nurses during the same timeframe.

Public health nurses play a vital role in addressing health emergencies and facilitating preventive care. Sustaining their positions represents a commitment to fostering a safer and healthier Fresno County. We respectfully urge you and the board to evaluate the staffing distribution within the Department of Public Health and to take timely measures to preserve the nursing workforce.



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[Handwritten signatures and names:]

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