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03/29/2022

Senator Shannon Grove 1021 O Street, Room 7150 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Grove:

Homestead Valley Community Council writes in support of your legislation, SB 1484. This important bill would allow private sector employers to obtain a tax credit for hiring an individual who is a homeless youth, foster youth, or former foster youth. The measure would thereby create a pathway to employment for youth who may not have the same opportunities as some of their peers.

Every year, California youth make up a significant portion of the State's total homeless population and are often severely impacted by the increasing costs for basic housing and food. It is widely understood that one way to end the homelessness cycle is by having a stable job. Employment leads to greater self-sufficiency and discipline, reduces the time youth spend on the streets, teaches key job and social skills, and provides the income stability necessary to find and maintain housing. Together, these factors reduce the likelihood that a youth will become stuck in a cycle of poverty, homelessness, and dependency on public benefits and services.

SB 1484 is a common sense solution to help young people gain the skills they need to be successful in life. It is also a win for businesses who are suffering under the weight of rising prices, labor shortages, and burdensome taxes and regulations.

For all of the reasons stated above, Homestead Valley Community Council supports SB 1484.

Sincerely,

Jim Harvey

President, Homestead Valley Community Council

On behalf of HVCC