



**COUNTY OF LAKE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
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March 20, 2018

Mr. Bruce Wilson, Executive Director
Workforce Alliance of the North Bay
P.O. Box 156
Napa, CA. 94559

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the possible closure and relocation of the Lake County Employment Development Department (EDD) Office. The closure of the office in one of the most significantly disadvantaged counties in the state, combined with a high rate of unemployment, is counterintuitive to the vision and mission of the EDD. Candidly, we are perplexed on why you would even be considering such a shortsighted proposal.

The EDD office in Lake County is an essential resource for a region with a higher than average unemployment rate and among veterans, the unemployment rate is a staggering 15.64%. The Lake County office is highly utilized. Between the months of September of 2017 and mid-February of 2018, there were approximately 3,760 visits.

Moving this office out of the county – and combining it with the Ukiah office – will make it extremely difficult for Lake County residents to access programs and resources that the EDD provides. To make matters worse, if this relocation proposal were to advance, Lake County will no longer have a local Disabled Veteran's Outreach Program. Losing these resources would be a devastating blow in an area where resources are already limited.

We urge you to keep the Lake County EDD Office open and continue to advance desperately needed services and programs which strengthen the economic vitality of the community.

Sincerely,

Jim Steele

Tina Scott

Chairman, District 3 Supervisor

Vice Chair, District 4 Supervisor

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District 5 Supervisor