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**CALIFORNIA'S NEW MASTER PLAN FOR AGING WILL HELP STATE BECOME MORE COMPASSIONATE, EQUAL & SAFE FOR OLDER AND DISABLED RESIDENTS**

*Long term care advocates seek gains that reduce costs, integrate care needs, strengthen care provision infrastructure, and protect frail*

(SACRAMENTO, CA) Peter Hansel, Chief Executive Officer of the [California PACE Association \(CaPACE\)](#), issued the following statement about the Master Plan for Aging upon its release today. Hansel served as a member of the Master Plan for Aging's Long Term Services and Supports Subcommittee, which presented its [recommendations](#) for inclusion in the Master Plan last May.

"This is an extremely exciting moment for California. The Master Plan outlines a strong stance for our state - that we will create an equal and just society where everyone can live a safe, fulfilling, and engaged life within their community of choice as they age."

"Governor Gavin Newsom and his administration have created a framework for action, forged through conscientious consultation with experts and communities across the state. The Master Plan's concrete initiatives and commitment to complete transparency for measuring our future progress will ensure accountability for results. Its release today is the beginning of exciting work ahead. Like many across California who helped shape the Master Plan, I am proud of the commitment it makes it to improve the well-being of Californians and am excited to build new partnerships for change."

"Too many of California's seniors and persons with disabilities lack access to timely and appropriate long-term services and supports when they need them. We will continue pushing the state to make these services, including PACE, available and consumer-friendly in all communities. This outcome would reduce runaway care costs, improve our response to integrated care needs, and reduce the risks of neglect and future pandemics like COVID-19 that most acutely harmed Californians living in institutions. Achieving these goals will require the development of a person-centered care system and investing in our infrastructure of care provision."

*The California PACE Association (CalPACE) is a non-profit association dedicated to the expansion of comprehensive health care services to the frail elderly through the Program of All-inclusive Care for Elderly (PACE), which is an alternative to nursing home care. PACE provides preventive, primary, acute, and long-term care services so that older individuals can continue living in their communities.*

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