



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



Visit us online: <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

Get in touch: [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org)

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## PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

Monday, September 15, 2025

1:00pm-3:00pm (PST)

510 S. Vermont Avenue, 9th Floor, LA 90020

Validated Parking @ 523 Shatto Place, LA 90020

*\*As a building security protocol, attendees entering the building must notify parking attendant and/or security personnel that they are attending a Commission on HIV meeting.*

Agenda and meeting materials will be posted on our website at <https://hiv.lacounty.gov/public-policy-committee/>

### Register Here to Join Virtually

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/weblink/register/r8e1ae7f68b410087399e295dd296594e>

### Notice of Teleconferencing Sites

Bartz-Altadonna Community Health Center  
43322 Gingham Ave, Lancaster, CA 93535

### Public Comments

You may provide public comment in person, or alternatively, you may provide written public comment by:

- Emailing [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org)
- Submitting electronically at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PUBLIC\\_COMMENTS](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PUBLIC_COMMENTS)

*\*Please indicate your name, the corresponding agenda item, and whether you would like to state your public comment during the meeting. All public comments will be made part of the official record.*

### Accommodations

Requests for a translator, reasonable modification, or accommodation from individuals with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, are available free of charge with at least 72 hours' notice before the meeting date by contacting the Commission office at [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org) or 213.738.2816.



*Scan QR code to download an electronic copy of the meeting packet. Hard copies of materials will not be available in alignment with the County's green initiative to recycle and reduce waste. If meeting packet is not yet available, check back prior to meeting; meeting packet subject to change. Agendas will be posted 72 hours prior to meeting per Brown Act.*

# together.

WE CAN END HIV IN OUR COMMUNITIES ONCE & FOR ALL

Apply to become a Commission member at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COHMembershipApp>

For application assistance, call (213) 738-2816 or email [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org)



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



510 S. Vermont Ave., 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles CA 90020  
MAIN: 213.738.2816 EML: [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org) WEBSITE: <https://hiv.lacounty.gov>

**AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV  
PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 | 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

510 S. Vermont Ave  
Terrace Level (9<sup>th</sup> Floor) Conference Rooms  
Los Angeles, CA 90020  
Validated Parking: 523 Shatto Place, Los Angeles 90020

*For those attending in person, as a building security protocol, attendees entering from the first-floor lobby **must** notify security personnel that they are attending the Commission on HIV meeting to access the Terrace Level Conference Rooms (9<sup>th</sup> floor) where our meetings are held.*

**NOTICE OF TELECONFERENCING SITE:**

Bartz-Altadonna Community Health Center  
43322 Gingham Ave, Lancaster, CA 93535

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO JOIN VIRTUALLY, REGISTER HERE:**

To Register + Join by Computer:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/weblink/register/r8e1ae7f68b410087399e295dd296594e>

To Join by Telephone: 1-213-306-3065 U.S. Toll

Password: POLICY Meeting ID/Access Code: 2530 862 9352

Public Policy Committee Members:			
Katja Nelson, MPP <i>Co-Chair</i>	Arburtha Franklin <i>Co-Chair</i>	Mary Cummings	OM Davis (LOA)
Jet Finley ( <i>Alt. to Terrance Jones</i> )	Terrance Jones	Lee Kochems, MA	Leonardo Martinez-Real
Paul Nash, PhD			
QUORUM: 5			

**AGENDA POSTED:** September 9, 2025.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:** Supporting documentation can be obtained via the Commission on HIV Website at: <http://hiv.lacounty.gov> or in person. The Commission Offices are located at 510 S. Vermont Ave., 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, 90020. Validated parking is available at 523 Shatto Place, Los Angeles 90020. ***\*Hard copies of materials will not be made available during meetings unless otherwise determined by staff in alignment with the County's green initiative to recycle and reduce waste.***

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public Comment is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on an agenda item, or any item of interest to the public, before or during the Commission's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. To submit Public Comment, you may join the virtual meeting via your smart device and post your Public Comment in the Chat box -or- email your Public Comment to [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org) -or- submit your Public Comment electronically [here](#). All Public Comments will be made part of the official record.

**ATTENTION:** Any person who seeks support or endorsement from the Commission on any official action may be subject to the provisions of Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.160 relating to lobbyists. Violation of the lobbyist ordinance may result in a fine and other penalties. For information, call (213) 974-1093.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Interpretation services for the hearing impaired and translation services for languages other than English are available free of charge with at least 72 hours' notice before the meeting date. To arrange for these services, please contact the Commission Office at (213) 738-2816 or via email at [HIVComm@lachiv.org](mailto:HIVComm@lachiv.org).

Los servicios de interpretación para personas con impedimento auditivo y traducción para personas que no hablan Inglés están disponibles sin costo. Para pedir estos servicios, póngase en contacto con Oficina de la Comisión al (213) 738-2816 (teléfono), o por correo electrónico á [HIVComm@lachiv.org](mailto:HIVComm@lachiv.org), por lo menos setenta y dos horas antes de la junta.

## **I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Call to Order & Meeting Guidelines/Reminders                | 1:00 PM – 1:03 PM |
| 2. Introductions, Roll Call, & Conflict of Interest Statements | 1:03 PM – 1:05 PM |
| 3. Approval of Agenda <b>MOTION #1</b>                         | 1:05 PM – 1:07 PM |
| 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes <b>MOTION #2</b>                | 1:07 PM – 1:10 PM |

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1:10 PM – 1:15 PM

5. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee of items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Committee. For those who wish to provide public comment may do so in person, electronically by clicking [here](#), or by emailing [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org).

## **III. COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

1:15 PM – 1:20 PM

6. Opportunity for Committee members to recommend new business items for the full body or a committee level discussion on non-agendized Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation, or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

## **IV. REPORTS**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 7. COH Staff Report                          | 1:20 PM – 1:30 PM |
| a. Operational and Commission Updates        |                   |
| 8. Co-Chair Report                           | 1:30 PM – 1:40 PM |
| a. 2025 Committee Meeting Calendar-- Updates |                   |

**V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

10. 2025 Policy Priorities	1:40 PM – 1:45 PM
11. 2025 Legislative Docket—Updates	1:45 PM – 2:00 PM
12. State Policy & Budget—Updates	2:00 PM – 2:15 PM
13. Federal Policy-- Updates	2:15 PM – 2:30 PM
14. County Policy-- Updates	2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

**VII. NEXT STEPS**

2:45 PM – 2:50 PM

- 13. Task/Assignments Recap
- 14. Agenda development for the next meeting

**VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2:50 PM – 2:55 PM

- 15. Opportunity for members of the public and the committee to make announcements.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

3:00 PM

- 16. Adjournment for the meeting of September 15, 2025.

PROPOSED MOTIONS	
<b>MOTION #1</b>	Approve the Agenda Order as presented or revised.
<b>MOTION #2</b>	Approve the Public Policy Committee minutes, as presented or revised.



## HYBRID MEETING GUIDELINES, ETIQUETTE & REMINDERS

(Updated 7.15.24)

- ☐ This meeting is a **Brown-Act meeting** and is being recorded.
  - Turn off your ringers/notifications on your smart devices so as not to disrupt the meeting.
  - Your voice is important and we want to ensure that it is captured accurately on the record. Please be respectful of one another and minimize crosstalk.
- ☐ The **meeting packet** can be found on the Commission's website at <https://hiv.lacounty.gov/meetings/> or accessed via the QR code provided. Hard copies of materials will not be provided in compliance with the County's green initiative to recycle and reduce waste.
- ☐ Please comply with the **Commission's Code of Conduct** located in the meeting packet.
- ☐ **Public Comment** for members of the public can be submitted in person, electronically @ [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/public\\_comments](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/public_comments) or via email at [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org). *Please indicate your name, the corresponding agenda item, and whether you would like to state your public comment during the meeting; if so, staff will call upon you appropriately. Public comments are limited to two minutes per agenda item. All public comments will be made part of the official record.*
- ☐ For individuals joining in person, to mitigate any potential streaming interference for those joining virtually, we respectfully ask that you **not simultaneously log into the virtual option of this meeting via WebEx.**
- ☐ Committee members invoking **AB 2449 for "Just Cause" or "Emergency Circumstances"** must communicate their intentions to staff and/or co-chairs no later than the start of the meeting. Members requesting to join pursuant to AB 2449 must have their audio and video on for the entire duration of the meeting and disclose whether there is a person over the age of 18 in the room in order to be counted toward quorum and have voting privileges. For members joining virtually due to "Emergency Circumstances", a vote will be conducted by the Committee/COH for approval.
- ☐ Members will be required to explicitly state their agency's **Ryan White Program Part A and/or CDC prevention conflicts of interest** on the record (versus referring to list in the packet). A list of conflicts can be found in the meeting packet and are recorded on the back of members' name plates, courtesy of staff.

*If you experience challenges in logging into the virtual meeting, please refer to the WebEx tutorial [HERE](#) or contact Commission staff at [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org).*



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV



Approved by COH  
6/8/23

510 S. Vermont Ave 14<sup>th</sup> Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-6748

HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

### CODE OF CONDUCT

The Commission on HIV welcomes commissioners, guests, and the public into a space where people of all opinions and backgrounds are able to contribute. In this space, we challenge ourselves to be self-reflective and committed to an ongoing understanding of each other and the complex intersectionality of the lives we live. We create a safe environment where we celebrate differences while striving for consensus in the fights against our common enemies: HIV and STDs. We build trust in each other by having honest, respectful, and productive conversations. As a result, the Commission has adopted and is consistently committed to implementing the following guidelines for Commission, committee, and associated meetings.

**All participants and stakeholders should adhere to the following:**

- 1) We approach all our interactions with compassion, respect, and transparency.**
- 2) We respect others' time by starting and ending meetings on time, being punctual, and staying present.**
- 3) We listen with intent, avoid interrupting others, and elevate each other's voices.**
- 4) We encourage all to bring forth ideas for discussion, community planning, and consensus.**
- 5) We focus on the issue, not the person raising the issue.**
- 6) Be flexible, open-minded, and solution-focused.**
- 7) We give and accept respectful and constructive feedback.**
- 8) We keep all issues on the table (no "hidden agendas"), avoid monopolizing discussions and minimize side conversations.**
- 9) We have no place in our deliberations for racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and other discriminatory statements, and "-isms" including misogyny, ableism, and ageism.**
- 10) We give ourselves permission to learn from our mistakes.**

In response to violation of the Code of Conduct which results in meeting disruption, Include provisions of SB 1100 which states in part, ". . . authorize the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting . . . Removal to be preceded by a warning to the individual by the presiding member of the legislative body or their designee that the individual's behavior is disrupting the meeting and that the individual's failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal." Complaints related to internal Commission matters such as alleged violation of the Code of Conduct or other disputes among members are addressed and resolved in adherence to Policy/Procedure #08.3302." (Commission Bylaws, Article VII, Section 4.)

APPROVED BY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ON 05/25/23; COH 06/08/23

Approved (11/12/1998); Revised (2/10/2005; 9/6/2005); Revised (4/11/19; 3/3/22, 3/23/23; 5/30/23)

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



510 S. Vermont Ave. 14th Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-4748  
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*Presence at meetings is recorded based on the attendance roll call. Only members of the Commission on HIV (COH) are accorded voting privileges and must verbally acknowledge their attendance in order to vote.  
Approved meeting minutes are available on the COH's website; meeting recordings are available upon request.*

## PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2025

**Draft**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
P = Present   A = Absent   EA = Excused Absence			
Katja Nelson, MPP, Co-Chair	P	Leonardo Martinez-Real (Arburtha Franklin)	P
Lee Kochems, MA, Co-Chair	LOA	Paul Nash, PhD, CPsychol, AFBPsS, FHEA	P
Mary Cummings	P	Ronnie Osorio	A
Terrance Jones	EA		
COMMISSION STAFF AND CONSULTANTS			
Cheryl Barrit, Lizette Martinez, and Jose Rangel-Garibay			
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC			
OM Davis, Alasdair Burton, John Mones			

\*Some participants may not have been captured. Attendance can be corrected by emailing the Commission.

\*Members of the public may confirm their attendance by contacting Commission staff at [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org).

\*Meeting minutes may be corrected up to one year from the date of approval.

Meeting and agenda materials can be found on the Commission's website at <https://hiv.lacounty.gov/public-policy-committee/>

### I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- **CALL TO ORDER & MEETING GUIDELINES/REMINDERS**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am.

- **INTRODUCTIONS, ROLL CALL, & CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENTS**

Katja Nelson, Public Policy Committee (PPC) co-chair, led introductions.

- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION #1:** Approve the Agenda Order as presented or revised. *(Passed by consensus).*

- **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION #2:** Approve the Public Policy Committee minutes, as presented or revised. *(Passed by consensus).*

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

- **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON ITEMS OF INTEREST THAT ARE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE. FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT MAY DO SO IN PERSON, ELECTRONICALLY BY CLICKING [HERE](#), OR BY EMAILING [HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG](mailto:HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG).**

There were no public comments.

### III. COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

- **OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS TO RECOMMEND NEW BUSINESS ITEMS FOR THE FULL BODY OR A COMMITTEE LEVEL DISCUSSION ON NON-AGENDIZED MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA, TO BE DISCUSSED AND (IF REQUESTED) PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING, OR MATTERS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION BECAUSE OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, OR WHERE THE NEED TO TAKE ACTION AROSE SUBSEQUENT TO THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA.**

There were no committee new business items.

### IV. REPORTS

- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT**

- **Operational and Commission Updates**

Cheryl Barrit, Executive Director, reported that the next COH meeting will be on February 13, 2025, at 9am at the CA Endowment. The meeting will be followed by the “Consumer Resource Fair” from 12pm-5pm. Parking at the CA Endowment is free, and many spots are available. A flyer for the event is included in the meeting packet.

- **CO-CHAIR REPORT**

- **2025 Co-Chair Elections**

Elections for the second co-chair seat will take place at the March 3, 2025, PPC meeting or at a future meeting once a candidate is nominated. C. Barrit reminded the committee that Arburtha Franklin is interested in becoming a co-chair for the Committee. A. Franklin will become eligible for the co-chair nomination once she is moved from a commissioner “alternate” seat to a commissioner “HIV stakeholder seat.” The vote will take place at the COH meeting on February 13, 2025. Once the COH approves the seat change, the recommendation will be elevated to the BOS. COH staff will notify the Committee once this process has been completed.

- **Review 2025 Committee Meeting Calendar**

K. Nelson provided an overview of the draft 2025 committee meeting calendar. She noted that the May 5, 2025, meeting is cancelled due to lack of conference room availability at the Vermont Corridor. She noted that for the meeting time for the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, and June 2<sup>nd</sup> PPC meetings will change from 1pm-3pm to 10am-12pm for the due to lack of room availability. A copy of the calendar is included in the meeting packet.

### V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **2025 POLICY PRIORITIES**

K. Nelson led the committee in a review and discussion of the policy priorities document. She highlighted the revisions to the introductory paragraphs which aim to streamline the information. Jose Rangel-Garibay added that the bullet points under the main topic areas were also revised and condensed to limit the length of the document to two pages. He noted that the sections in red text are additions. The packet includes copies of the original document and the revised document.

- **2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE DOCKET – UPDATES**

K. Nelson provided an overview of the current bills on the 2025-26 Legislative Docket. She reminded the committee of the docket process development process which entails committee members and members of the public submitting bills for consideration to include in the docket. She explained that

the committee then holds deliberations and takes a position on the bills. The available positions are support, oppose, support with amendments, oppose unless amend, and watch. The committee also can submit questions to the legislative offices of the assembly member or state senator's office to clarify and better understand the proposed bills. Once the committee has taken a position, the docket is submitted to LA County CEO's office of Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations and serves as recommendations to the BOS.

Additionally, she noted that the document contains a table with five columns. The first column includes the bill number and legislator(s) who introduced/authored the bill; the second column includes the bill title; the third column includes a brief description of the bill, a link to the bill text, and any comments the committee has made regarding the bill; the fourth column includes the position the committee recommends; and the fifth column includes the current status of the bill and a date of the last update on that status. A copy of the document is included in the meeting packet.

K. Nelson added that legislators have until February 21, 2025, to submit bills and the committee should come prepared to discuss the docket at the next committee meeting on March 3, 2025. The committee began their deliberations and made the following decisions:

- **AB 4 Covered California Expansion: NEED MORE INFORMATION**  
P. Nash expressed his concern of the state's capacity to continue expanding access to the healthcare exchange. A. Franklin echoed this sentiment quoting the following bill language, "[...] as feasible, consistent with federal guidance and given existing federal law and rules." Reach out to the office and ask what the legislator's thoughts on the federal piece before taking a position.
- **AB 11 The Social Housing Act: NEED MORE INFORMATION**  
How is this different from the housing and community development department?
- **AB 20 Homelessness: Housing First: WATCH -NEED MORE INFORMATION**  
What is the County's take on this? As a "housing first" county
- **AB 45 Privacy: Health Care Data: SUPPORT**
- **AB 73 Mental Health Black Mental Health Navigator Certification: SUPPORT**  
Consider requesting feedback and will there be other bills or efforts that will support other communities that need similar health navigator certification programs? Wait for factsheet.
- **AB 229 Criminal Procedure: Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing: NEED MORE INFORMATION**  
How is this different from the current law? How would this be implemented? Consider reaching out to local experts on HIV criminalization for insight.
- **AB 260 Sexual and Reproductive Health Care: SUPPORT w/QUESTIONS**  
What is the potential impact of this bill and how does it protect sexual and reproductive health care rights at the state level?
- **AB 281 Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and HIV Prevention Education: WATCH**
- **Federal Bill Number Pending Protecting Sensitive Locations Act: SUPPORT**

COH staff will add a link to the CEO LAIR office to the docket document as a reference for committee members to learn more about the current policy positions the BOS is considering.

- **STATE POLICY & BUDGET UPDATE**  
There were no additional updates.
- **FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE**  
There were no additional updates.

- **COUNTY POLICY UPDATE**

There were no additional updates.

**VI. NEXT STEPS**

- **TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP**

- ➡ COH staff will continue populating the 2025-26 Legislative Docket and follow-up with legislative offices to obtain additional information on bills upon the committee's request.

- **AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Hold co-chair elections for vacant seat.
  - Review 2025-2026 Legislative Docket.

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- **ADJOURNMENT FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 2, 2025.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02pm.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE 2025 MEETING CALENDAR (Updated 09/9/25)**

DATE	KEY AGENDA ITEMS/TOPICS (subject to change; for planning purposes)
<b>Jan. 6, 2025</b> 10am to 12pm TK02	<b><i>** Time change due to room unavailability at 1pm**</i></b> Elect co-chairs. Review 2025 COH workplan and 2025 Committee meeting calendar Overview of PPC Core Responsibilities
<b>Feb. 3, 2025</b> 10am to 12pm TK02	<b><i>**Time change due to room unavailability at 1pm**</i></b>
<b>Mar. 3, 2025</b> 10am to 12pm TK02	Review 2025 Legislative Docket
<b>Apr. 7, 2025</b>	<b>MEETING CANCELED</b>
<b>May 5, 2025</b>	<b>MEETING CANCELED</b>
<b>Jun. 2, 2025</b> 10am-12pm TK02	2025 Legislative Docket Updates State and Federal Budget Updates
<b>Jul. 7, 2025</b>	<b>MEETING CANCELED</b>
<b>Aug. 4, 2025</b>	<b>MEETING CANCELED</b>
<b>Sep. 15, 2025</b> 1pm-3pm TK02	Review 2025 Legislative Docket
<b>Oct. 6, 2025</b> 1pm-3pm TK02	CEO LAIR Presentation
<b>Nov. 3, 2025</b> 1pm-3pm TK11	<a href="#">Commission on HIV Annual Conference 11/13/2025</a>
<b>Dec. 1, 2025</b> 1pm-3pm TK02	<b><i>Consider rescheduling due to World AIDS Day events.</i></b> Reflect on 2025 accomplishments. Co-Chair Nominations for 2026.



## 2025 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER | UPDATED 1.3.25

SEAT NO.	MEMBERSHIP SEAT	Commissioner's Seated	Committee Assignment	COMMISSIONER	AFFILIATION (IF ANY)	TERM BEGIN	TERM ENDS	ALTERNATE
1	Medi-Cal representative			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
2	City of Pasadena representative	1	EXC SBP	Erika Davies	City of Pasadena Department of Public Health	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
3	City of Long Beach representative			<b>Vacant</b>	Long Beach Health & Human Services	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
4	City of Los Angeles representative	1	SBP	Dahlia Ale-Ferlito	AIDS Coordinator's Office, City of Los Angeles	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
5	City of West Hollywood representative	1	PP&A	Dee Saunders	City of West Hollywood	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
6	Director, DHSP *Non Voting	1	EXC	Mario Pérez, MPH	DHSP, LA County Department of Public Health	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
7	Part B representative	1	PP&A	Karl Halfman, MA	California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
8	Part C representative	1	OPS	Leon Maultsby, DBH, MHA	Charles R. Drew University	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
9	Part D representative	1	SBP	Mikhaela Cielo, MD	LAC + USC MCA Clinic, LA County Department of Health Services	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
10	Part F representative	1	SBP	Sandra Cuevas	Pacific AIDS Education and Training - Los Angeles Area	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
11	Provider representative #1			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
12	Provider representative #2	1	SBP	Andre Molette	Men's Health Foundation	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
13	Provider representative #3	1	PP&A	Harold Glenn San Agustin, MD	JWCH Institute, Inc.	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
14	Provider representative #4	1	PP&A	LaShonda Spencer, MD	Charles Drew University	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
15	Provider representative #5	1	SBP	Byron Patel, RN	Los Angeles LGBT Center	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
16	Provider representative #6	1	EXC OPS	Dechelle Richardson	AMAAD Institute	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
17	Provider representative #7			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
18	Provider representative #8	1	SBP	Martin Sattah, MD	Rand Shrader Clinic, LA County Department of Health Services	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
19	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 1			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	Kerry Ferguson (SBP)
20	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 2	1	SBP	Russell Ybarra	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
21	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 3	1	OPS	Ish Herrera	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
22	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 4			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	Lambert Talley (PP&A)
23	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 5	1	EXC SBP	Kevin Stalter	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
24	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 6	1	OPS	Jayda Arrington	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
25	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 7	1	OPS	Vilma Mendoza	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
26	Unaffiliated representative, SPA 8	1	EXC PP&A	Kevin Donnelly	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
27	Unaffiliated representative, Supervisorial District 1	1	PP	Leonardo Martinez-Real	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	Arburtha Franklin (PPC)
28	Unaffiliated representative, Supervisorial District 2	1	EXC OPS	Bridget Gordon	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
29	Unaffiliated representative, Supervisorial District 3	1	SBP	Arlene Frames	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
30	Unaffiliated representative, Supervisorial District 4			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
31	Unaffiliated representative, Supervisorial District 5	1	PP&A	Felipe Gonzalez	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	Rita Garcia (PP&A)
32	Unaffiliated representative, at-large #1	1	PP&A	Lilieth Conolly	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
33	Unaffiliated representative, at-large #2	1	PPC	Terrance Jones	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
34	Unaffiliated representative, at-large #3	1	PP&A	Daryl Russell, M.Ed	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	David Hardy (SBP)
35	Unaffiliated representative, at-large #4	1	EXC	Joseph Green	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
36	Representative, Board Office 1	1	PP&A	Al Ballesteros, MBA	JWCH Institute, Inc.	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
37	Representative, Board Office 2	1	EXC	Danielle Campbell, PhD, MPH	T.H.E Clinic, Inc. (THE)	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
38	Representative, Board Office 3	1	EXC PP	Katja Nelson, MPP	APLA	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
39	Representative, Board Office 4	1	EXC OPS	Justin Valero, MA	No affiliation	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
40	Representative, Board Office 5	1	PP&A	Jonathan Weedman	ViaCare Community Health	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
41	Representative, HOPWA			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
42	Behavioral/social scientist	1	EXC PP	Lee Kochems, MA (LOA)	Unaffiliated representative	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
43	Local health/hospital planning agency representative			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
44	HIV stakeholder representative #1	1	EXC OPS   PP	Alasdair Burton	No affiliation	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
45	HIV stakeholder representative #2	1	PP	Paul Nash, CPsychol AFBPs FHEA	University of Southern California	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
46	HIV stakeholder representative #3	1	OPS	Erica Robinson	Health Matters Clinic	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
47	HIV stakeholder representative #4	1	PP	Ronnie Osorio	Center for Health Justice (CHJ)	July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
48	HIV stakeholder representative #5	1	PP	Mary Cummings	Bartz-Altadonna Community Health Center	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
49	HIV stakeholder representative #6			<b>Vacant</b>		July 1, 2023	June 30, 2025	
50	HIV stakeholder representative #7	1	PP&A	William D. King, MD, JD, AAHIVS	W. King Health Care Group	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
51	HIV stakeholder representative #8	1	EXC OPS	Miguel Alvarez	No affiliation	July 1, 2024	June 30, 2026	
TOTAL:		41						

LEGEND: EXC=EXECUTIVE COMM | OPS=OPERATIONS COMM | PP&A=PLANNING, PRIORITIES & ALLOCATIONS COMM | PPC=PUBLIC POLICY COMM | SBP=STANDARDS & BEST PRACTICES COMM

LOA: Leave of Absence

Overall total: 46



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



## COMMISSION MEMBER "CONFLICTS-OF-INTEREST"

Updated 1/3/25

In accordance with the Ryan White Program (RWP), conflict of interest is defined as any financial interest in, board membership, current or past employment, or contractual agreement with an organization, partnership, or any other entity, whether public or private, that receives funds from the Ryan White Part A program. These provisions also extend to direct ascendants and descendants, siblings, spouses, and domestic partners of Commission members and non-Commission Committee-only members. Based on the RWP legislation, HRSA guidance, and Commission policy, it is mandatory for Commission members to state all conflicts of interest regarding their RWP Part A/B and/or CDC HIV prevention-funded service contracts prior to discussions involving priority-setting, allocation, and other fiscal matters related to the local HIV continuum. Furthermore, Commission members must recuse themselves from voting on any specific RWP Part A service category(ies) for which their organization hold contracts. **\*An asterisk next to member's name denotes affiliation with a County subcontracted agency listed on the addendum.**

COMMISSION MEMBERS		ORGANIZATION	SERVICE CATEGORIES
ALE-FERLITO	Dahlia	City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
ALVAREZ	Miguel	No Affiliation	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
ARRINGTON	Jayda	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
BALLESTEROS	AI	JWCH, INC.	HIV Testing Storefront
			HIV Testing & Syphilis Screening, Diagnosis, & Linked Referral...(CSV)
			STD Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment
			Health Education/Risk Reduction (HERR)
			Mental Health
			Oral Healthcare Services
			Transitional Case Management
			Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			Benefits Specialty
			Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			Transportation Services
BURTON	Alasdair	No Affiliation	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
CAMPBELL	Danielle	T.H.E. Clinic, Inc.	Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			Transportation Services
CIELO	Mikhaela	Los Angeles General Hospital	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
CONOLLY	Lilieth	No Affiliation	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
CUEVAS	Sandra	Pacific AIDS Education and Training - Los Angeles	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
CUMMINGS	Mary	Bartz-Altadonna Community Health Center	Biomedical HIV Prevention/EHE

COMMISSION MEMBERS		ORGANIZATION	SERVICE CATEGORIES
DAVIES	Erika	City of Pasadena	HIV Testing Storefront
			HIV Testing & Sexual Networks
DONNELLY	Kevin	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
FERGUSON	Kerry	ViiV Healthcare	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
FRAMES	Arlene	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
FRANKLIN*	Arburtha	Translatin@ Coalition	Vulnerable Populations (Trans)
GARCIA	Rita	No Affiliation	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
GERSH (SBP Member)	Lauren	APLA Health & Wellness	Case Management, Home-Based
			Benefits Specialty
			Nutrition Support
			HIV Testing Social & Sexual Networks
			STD Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
			Sexual Health Express Clinics (SHEX-C)
			Health Education/Risk Reduction
			Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Oral Healthcare Services
			Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			HIV and STD Prevention Services in Long Beach
			Transportation Services
			Residential Care Facility - Chronically Ill
			Data to Care Services
GONZALEZ	Felipe	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or Prevention Contracts
GORDON	Bridget	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
GREEN	Joseph	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
HALFMAN	Karl	California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS	Part B Grantee
HARDY	David	LAC-USC Rand Schrader Clinic	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
HERRERA	Ismael "Ish"	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
JONES	Terrance	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
KOCHEMS	Lee	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
KING	William	W. King Health Care Group	No Ryan White or prevention contracts

COMMISSION MEMBERS		ORGANIZATION	SERVICE CATEGORIES
MARTINEZ (PP&A Member)	Miguel	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			HIV Testing Storefront
			STD Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
			Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			Transportation Services
			Promoting Healthcare Engagement Among Vulnerable Populations
MARTINEZ-REAL	Leonardo	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
MAULTSBY	Leon	Charles R. Drew University	Biomedical HIV Prevention
			HIV Testing Storefront
			HIV Testing Social & Sexual Networks
MENDOZA	Vilma	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
MINTLINE (SBP Member)	Mark	Western University of Health Sciences (No Affiliation)	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
MOLETTE	Andre	Men's Health Foundation	Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			Promoting Healthcare Engagement Among Vulnerable Populations
			Sexual Health Express Clinics (SHEx-C)
			Transportation Services
			Data to Care Services
NASH	Paul	University of Southern California	Biomedical HIV Prevention

COMMISSION MEMBERS		ORGANIZATION	SERVICE CATEGORIES
NELSON	Katja	APLA Health & Wellness	Case Management, Home-Based
			Benefits Specialty
			Nutrition Support
			HIV Testing Social & Sexual Networks
			STD Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
			Sexual Health Express Clinics (SHEX-C)
			Health Education/Risk Reduction
			Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Oral Healthcare Services
			Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			HIV and STD Prevention Services in Long Beach
			Transportation Services
			Residential Care Facility - Chronically Ill
			Data to Care Services
OSORIO	Ronnie	Center For Health Justice (CHJ)	Transitional Case Management - Jails
			Promoting Healthcare Engagement Among Vulnerable Populations
PATEL	Byron	Los Angeles LGBT Center	Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			HIV Testing Storefront
			HIV Testing Social & Sexual Networks
			STD Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
			Health Education/Risk Reduction
			Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			Promoting Healthcare Engagement Among Vulnerable Populations
			Transportation Services
PERÉZ	Mario	Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health, Division of HIV and STD Programs	Ryan White/CDC Grantee
RICHARDSON	Dechelle	AMAAD Institute	Community Engagement/EHE
ROBINSON	Erica	Health Matters Clinic	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
RUSSEL	Daryl	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
SATTAH	Martin	Rand Schrader Clinic LA County Department of Health Services	No Ryan White or prevention contracts

COMMISSION MEMBERS		ORGANIZATION	SERVICE CATEGORIES
SAN AGUSTIN	Harold	JWCH, INC.	HIV Testing Storefront
			HIV Testing & Syphilis Screening, Diagnosis, & inked Referral...(CSV)
			STD Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
			Health Education/Risk Reduction
			Mental Health
			Oral Healthcare Services
			Transitional Case Management
			Ambulatory Outpatient Medical (AOM)
			Benefits Specialty
			Biomedical HIV Prevention
			Medical Care Coordination (MCC)
			Transportation Services
SAUNDERS	Dee	City of West Hollywood	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
SPENCER	LaShonda	Oasis Clinic (Charles R. Drew University/Drew CARES)	Biomedical HIV Prevention
			HIV Testing Storefront
			HIV Testing Social & Sexual Networks
STALTER	Kevin	Unaffiliated representative	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
TALLEY	Lambert	Grace Center for Health & Healing (No Affiliation)	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
VALERO	Justin	No Affiliation	No Ryan White or prevention contracts
WEEDMAN	Jonathan	ViaCare Community Health	Biomedical HIV Prevention
YBARRA	Russell	Capitol Drugs	No Ryan White or prevention contracts



## 2025-2026 Legislative Docket *(Last updated: 09/14/25)*

**POSITIONS:** SUPPORT | OPPOSE | SUPPORT w/AMENDMENTS | OPPOSE unless AMENDED | WATCH

BILL	TITLE	DESCRIPTION / COMMENTS	POSITION	STATUS
<b>AB 4</b> (Arambula)	Covered California Expansion	<p>This bill would require the California Health Benefit Exchange to design a program, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to allow individuals to obtain coverage regardless of immigration status.</p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB4">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB4</a></p>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<p><i>In Com. on APPR: Held under submission.</i></p> <p>05-23-25</p>
<b>AB 11</b> (Lee)	The Social Housing Act	<p>This bill would enact the Social Housing Act and would establish a state housing authority with the goal of developing social housing to tackle California's chronic housing shortage. The housing would be publicly backed, mixed-income, affordable, and financially self-sustaining.</p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB11">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB11</a></p> <p>How is this different from the CA Department on Housing and Community Development (HCD)?</p> <p>CA HCD serves as a program administrator that provides grants and loans and creates rental and homeownership opportunities for Californians. HCD does not manage properties or place individuals in affordable housing.</p>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<p><i>In Coms. On HOUSING and G.O., Hearing canceled at the request of author.</i></p> <p>06-26-25</p>
<b>AB 20</b> (DeMaio)	Homelessness: Housing First	<p>This bill would end the "Housing First" homeless model currently used and replace it with a "People First" model, which will redirect funds to programs that require mental health and substance abuse treatment to address the root causes of homelessness. The bill would prioritize expansion of shelter beds over permanent supportive housing, impose work requirements on individuals receiving assistance, and require the removal of homeless camps near schools and in public areas.</p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB20">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB20</a></p>	<b>WATCH</b>	<p><i>In Com. on H. &amp; C.D., failed passage. Without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 62(a)</i></p> <p>05-21-25</p>

BILL	TITLE	DESCRIPTION / COMMENTS	POSITION	STATUS
<b>AB 45</b> (Bauer-Kahan)	Privacy: Health Care Data	<p>This bill would prohibit geofencing near healthcare facilities and expand protections for personally identifiable data collected within them, covering both patients and visitors. Secondly, this bill would strengthen research privacy protections by preventing the release of personally identifiable information if the subpoena is issued under a law that conflicts with California's legal standards.</p> <p><i>Senate Amendments: Clarifies that this bill does not alter any applicable law regarding a law enforcement agency's use of personal information, including geolocation information generated by an electronic monitoring device.</i></p> <p><i>Clarifies that this bill does not prohibit geofencing activities conducted by a labor organization if the geofencing does not result in the labor union's collection of names or personal information without the expressed consent of the individual and is for activities concerning workplace conditions, worker or patient safety, labor disputes or organizing.</i></p> <p><i>Further clarifies that if a third-party vendor, such as social media platform, is contracted to collect personal information on behalf of a labor or employee organization is prohibited from selling, using, or sharing the collected personal information for any purpose other than the activities described above.</i></p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB45">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB45</a></p>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<p><i>Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.</i></p> <p><i>09-13-25</i></p>
<b>AB 67</b> (Bauer-Kahan)	Attorney General: Reproductive Privacy Act: Enforcement	<p>This bill grants the Attorney General authority to enforce penalties against local governments that obstruct reproductive healthcare, ensuring statewide accountability and access.</p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB67">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB67</a></p>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<p><i>In Com. on APPR. Held under submission.</i></p> <p><i>05-23-25</i></p>
<b>AB 73</b> (Jackson)	Mental Health: Black Mental Health Navigator Certification	<p>This bill would require the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to develop, upon appropriation by the Legislature, as a component of an existing Community Health Worker (CHW) certificate program, criteria for a specialty certificate program and specialized training requirements for a Black Mental Health Navigator Certification, and report related program data.</p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB73">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB73</a></p>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<p><i>In Com. on APPR. Held under submission.</i></p> <p><i>05-23-25</i></p>
<b>AB 82</b> (Ward)	Health Data Privacy and Safety	<p>This bill expands existing protections for reproductive health care services to include gender-affirming health care services.</p> <p><a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB82">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB82</a></p>	-	<p><i>Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.</i></p> <p><i>09-10-25</i></p>

BILL	TITLE	DESCRIPTION / COMMENTS	POSITION	STATUS
<b>AB 96</b> (Jackson)	Community Health Workers	This bill would expand the definition of community health workers (CHW) to include peer support specialists, who are people with personal experience with a particular health issue and help others going through the same thing. The bill also states that if a peer support specialist is certified, they will be considered to have completed all the education and training needed to be certified as a CHW.  <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB96">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB96</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	Re-referred to Committee on Health.  02-12-25
<b>AB 229</b> (Davies)	Criminal Procedure: Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing	This bill would authorize a search warrant for evidence for any sexually transmitted disease where a defendant is accused or charged with a specified sex offense.  <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB229&amp;search_keywords=HIV">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB229&amp;search_keywords=HIV</a>	<b>WATCH</b>	<i>In Com. on APPR. Held under submission.</i>  05-23-25
<b>AB 257</b> (Flora)	Specialty Care Network Telehealth and Other Virtual Services	This bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency, in collaboration with HCAI and DHCS to establish a demonstration project for a telehealth and other virtual services specialty care network that is designed to serve patients of safety-net providers consisting of quality providers, defined to include, among others, rural health clinics and community health centers.  <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB257">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB257</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>In Com. on APPR. Held under submission.</i>  05-23-25
<b>AB 260</b> (Aguiar-Curry)	Sexual and Reproductive Health Care	This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to ensure that patients can continue to access care, including abortion, gender-affirming care, and other sexual and reproductive health care in California, and to allow patients to access care through asynchronous modes.  <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB260&amp;search_keywords=HIV">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB260&amp;search_keywords=HIV</a>  <i>An urgency clause allows a bill to take effect immediately upon enactment, rather than waiting until January 1 of the following year, and requires a two-thirds majority vote in both legislative houses.</i>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Urgency clause adopted. Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.</i>  09-10-25
<b>AB 281</b> (Gallagher)	Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and Human Immunodeficiency Virus Prevention Education	This bill would amend Section 51938 of the Education Code to enhance parental rights and transparency in comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education. Key changes include allowing parents or guardians to inspect and copy educational materials, providing details on outside consultants or guest speakers, and clarifying notification and opt-out processes.  <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB281&amp;search_keywords=HIV">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB281&amp;search_keywords=HIV</a>	<b>WATCH</b>	<i>Ordered to inactive file at the request of Assembly Member Gallagher.</i>  06-12-25
<b>AB 309</b> (Zbur)	Hypodermic needles and syringes	This bill would ensure that pharmacists maintain the discretion to furnish sterile syringes without a prescription and that adults may legally possess syringes solely for personal use, as part of the state's comprehensive strategy to prevent the spread of HIV and viral hepatitis.  <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB309">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB309</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3pm.</i>  09-09-25

BILL	TITLE	DESCRIPTION / COMMENTS	POSITION	STATUS
<b>AB 396</b> (Tangipa)	Needle and syringe exchange services	This bill would require an entity that provides needle and syringe exchange services to ensure that each needle or syringe dispensed by the entity is appropriately discarded and destroyed. The bill would require those entities to ensure that each needle or syringe dispensed by the entity includes a unique serial number. <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB396">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB396</a>	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Referred to Committee on Health.  02-18-25
<b>AB 403</b> (Carrillo)	Medi-Cal Community Health Worker Services	This bill requires Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to report annually on several aspects of the Medi-Cal Community Health Worker (CHW) benefit, including assessing outreach and education efforts by managed care plans, CHW spending and utilization, referrals by provider type, and demographic disaggregation of CHWs and Medi-Cal members receiving CHW services. <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB403">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB403</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>In Com. on APPR. Held under submission.</i>  05-23-25
<b>AB 543</b> (Gonzalez and Elhawary)	Medi-Cal: Field Medicine	This bill would introduce and integrate street medicine into Medi-Cal for persons experiencing homelessness. This bill would allow unhoused Californians to automatically qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits during the eligibility process. <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB543">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB543</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.</i>  09-10-25
<b>AB 554</b> (Gonzalez)	Protecting Rights, Expanding Prevention, and Advancing Reimbursement for Equity (PrEPARE) Act	This bill strengthens protections requiring health plans and insurers to cover all HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications—if they are FDA-approved and clinically effective—without patient cost sharing or other restrictions like prior authorization. The bill also ensure that local, community-based clinics can receive timely reimbursement for these drugs. <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB554">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB554</a>  <i>Senate amendments: Delete provisions in the Assembly-approved version of this bill prohibiting grandfathered plans and health insurers from imposing any cost sharing for antiretroviral drugs, drug device or drug products for PrEP.</i> <i>**Broaden the prohibition in the Assembly-approved version of this bill against a long-acting injectable drug being therapeutically equivalent to a long-acting injectable drug with a different duration to instead apply this prohibition to a long-acting drug, drug device or drug product with a different duration.</i> <i>**Delete the prohibition in the Assembly-approved version of this bill against health plans and insurers subjecting ARVs to any other protocol designed to delay treatment and delete references to the Assembly-approved version of this bill to the Centers for Disease Control.</i> <i>**Delete provisions in the Assembly-approved version of this bill delaying by one year the operative date of this bill for individual and small group health plan and policies.</i>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Senate amendments concurred in To Engrossing and Enrolling.</i>  09-10-25
<b>AB 590</b> (Lee)	Social Housing Bond	This bill would enact the Social Housing Bond Act to build publicly developed and owned, mixed-income housing for Californians and place a bond measure on the November 2026 ballot to provide \$950 million in funding dedicated to creating social housing in California. <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB590">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB590</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	Referred to Com. on Housing and Community Development. 03-03-25

BILL	TITLE	DESCRIPTION / COMMENTS	POSITION	STATUS
<b>AB 678</b> (Lee)	Interagency Council on Homelessness	This bill requires the California Interagency Council on Homelessness—in partnership with LGBTQ+ community organizations and housing providers—to take proactive steps to ensure that state homelessness programs provide safe, inclusive, and culturally competent services for unhoused LGBTQ+ Californians. <a href="https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB678">https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB678</a>	-	<i>Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.</i> 09-11-25
<b>AB 688</b> (Gonzalez)	Telehealth for all Act of 2025	This bill would enact the Telehealth for all Act of 2025 which requires DHCS to publish a report every 2 years, beginning in 2028, that analyzes how telehealth is being used in the Medi-Cal Program. The report will utilize Medi-Cal data to look at how telehealth is helping people get care, the quality of care, and the costs, while also disaggregating the data based on location, race, and social determinants of health categories to identify disparities in accessibility of telehealth services. <a href="https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB688">https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB688</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4pm.</i> 09-04-25
<b>SB 41</b> (Wiener)	Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Regulation	This bill would require all PBMs be licensed and disclose basic information regarding their business practices to the licensing entity. This bill would also prohibit steering patients to affiliate pharmacies and instead allow patients to choose which in-network pharmacy best meets their needs. <a href="https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB41">https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB41</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Assembly amendments concurred in. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.</i> 09-10-25
<b>SB 278</b> (Cabaldon)	Health data: HIV test results	<i>This bill allows for a health care provider to share HIV test results with an individual's Medi-Cal managed care plan or external quality review organization contracted by the Department of Health Care Services to conduct external quality reviews of Medi-Cal plans without the written authorization of the individual tested for the purpose of administering quality improvement programs designed to improve HIV care for Medi-Cal recipient.</i>  <i>Assembly Amendments remove provisions allowing the Department of Public Health (CDPH) to share HIV test results with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the Medi-Cal plan a Medi-Cal recipient is assigned to for purposes of administering quality improvement programs, and provisions requiring DHCS, in consultation with CDPH, to develop an opt out mechanism for Medi-Cal recipients who do not wish to have this information shared by CDPH to DHCS or their plan.</i> <a href="https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB278">https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB278</a>	<b>SUPPORT</b>	<i>Assembly amendments concurred in. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.</i> 09-09-25

#### Endnotes

- (1) Under Joint Rule 56, bills introduced in the first year of the regular session that do not become carry-over bills shall be returned to the Chief Clerk of the Assembly or the Secretary of the Senate.

# 2023 TRAINING SERIES

## Tips for Making Effective Written and Oral Public Comments

May 24, 2023



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
COMMISSION ON HIV



# A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE COMMISSION ON HIV

- Commission (PC) governed by Los Angeles County Ordinance 03.20.070 [http://lacounty-ca.elaws.us/code/coor\\_title3\\_ch3.29](http://lacounty-ca.elaws.us/code/coor_title3_ch3.29)
- Formally became an integrated PC in 2013
- PC is federally required in order to receive Ryan White funds for HIV/AIDS services
- Housed as an independent commission within the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisor (BOS) of the County of Los Angeles.
- Advise Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) on how to prevent and reduce HIV infections via the integrated HIV plan (aka Comprehensive HIV Plan or CHP)
- 51 voting members; 1/3 (33%) must be unaffiliated consumers (UC)
- UC: PLWH and currently using a Ryan White (RW) Part A – funded service(s) and not employed by an agency receiving RW Part A funds.

# Learning Objectives


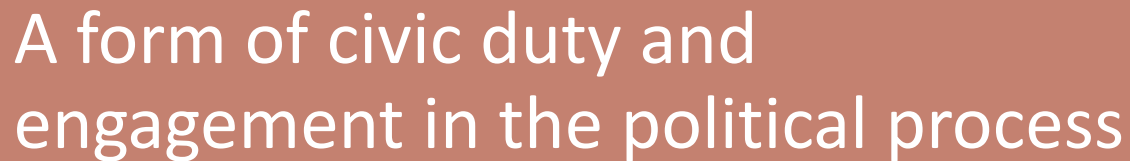
- Gain practical knowledge and skills to make effective public comments (PC) to elected bodies.
- Practice skills with mock meetings and scenarios.

# Why Make Public Comments?

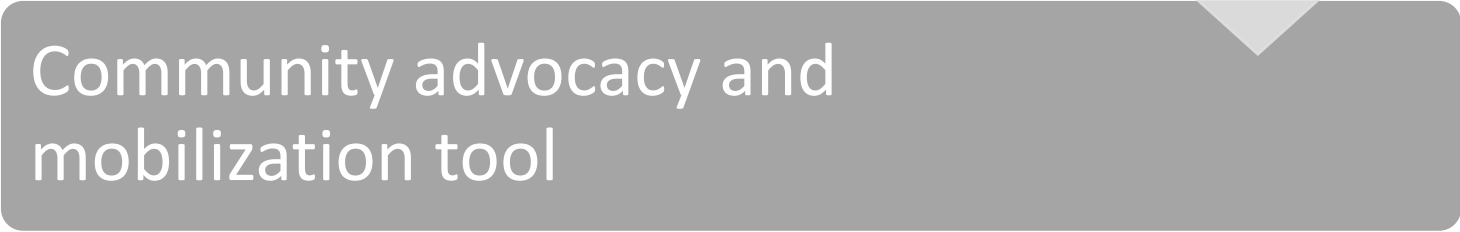
Public input increases transparency and accountability



A form of civic duty and engagement in the political process



Community advocacy and mobilization tool



# Key Resources

- **Ralph M. Brown Act** – governs open meetings for local government bodies
- **“Public Testimony:** public may comment on agenda items before or during consideration by the legislative body. Time must be set aside for public to comment on any other matters under the body’s jurisdiction.”

# Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Public Comments Guidelines

- Meeting agendas with PC instructions @ <https://bos.lacounty.gov/>
- Telephonic public comments available
- Limited to a **total** of 6 mins per speaker, per meeting
- 1 minute for one item
- 2 mins for multiple items
- 3 mins for multiple items and general public comment

How to participate: <https://bos.lacounty.gov/board-meeting-agendas/how-to-participate>

# Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Submitting PCs Online (cont'd)

1. To provide written comments on agenda items, use <https://publiccomment.bos.lacounty.gov/>
2. Complete information at the top of the comment page.
  1. **NOTE:** Required fields are First and Last names
3. Choose the agenda items that you wish to address.
4. Select In Favor, Oppose, Other
  1. **Optional:** You may submit comments for each item separately or upload a document with all of your comments. (Attachment limit is 5 documents)
5. Select “Next”
6. Verify the information is correct and select “Acknowledge” when you are ready to submit.
7. All comments submitted are public and viewable online.



## Tips – Live Comments

- Always check the public comment procedures on the meeting agenda.
- Agendas are posted 72 hours ahead of a meeting.
- Keep your comments succinct. Adhere to time limits.
- **Testimonies should cover four basic things:**
  1. Who you are
  2. Why this topic matters to you
  3. What specific points you don't support *and what you do support*

## Tips – Live Comments (cont'd)

1. **Be mindful of your tone.** Be aware of how your message will be received
  2. Time is limited, so **keep it brief.**
  3. **Be crystal clear.** Keep your words and your message simple to leave no room for confusion or misinterpretation.
  4. **Be bulletproof.** If you make a claim, back it up with data and reputable sources.
  5. Get a second (and third and even fourth) set of eyes to **review your statement.** Have an honest friend read or listen to your testimony to make absolutely sure your message is coming across effectively.
- **Time Limits**
    - 1-minute testimony = 130 words
    - 2-minute testimony = 260 words
    - 3-minute testimony = 390 words

## Tips – Live Comments (cont'd)

**Prioritize your message:** Make sure your most critical point(s) is/are made in the first minute of your testimony. That way if your time gets cut short, it gets cut off at the end after your most important point has been made.

**Be flexible:** Be ready to adapt with shorter versions of your testimony if needed. If you're comfortable doing so, you can also adjust your testimony based on the comments made before you, such as eliminating a point that has already been covered and discussing something else in its place, or correcting misinformation in a previous testimony.

Resource: [https://www.eli.org/sites/default/files/files-pdf/Verbal-Commenting\\_1.pdf](https://www.eli.org/sites/default/files/files-pdf/Verbal-Commenting_1.pdf)

# Practice & Scenarios

- Board item #11: Proclaiming April 2023 as “Fair Housing Month”
- *How would you prepare for a written public comment?*
- *What would you include in your written public comment?*
- *How will you follow-up with your written public comment submission?*

# Practice & Scenarios

- General Public Comments (towards end of Board agenda)
- The Chair just announced that public comments will be limited to 1 min per person.
- HIV or STD is not on the Board's agenda but you want to speak about HIV/STDs.
- How will you prepare for a live comment (telephonic or in person)?
- What will you cover in your comments?
- How will you follow-up with your live public comments?

**Q & A**



<https://hivconnect.org/>



510 S. Vermont Ave, 14th Floor,  
Los Angeles, CA 90020



[hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org)



213.738.2816

Facebook: @HIVCommissionLA

Twitter: @HIVCommissionLA

Instagram: @HIVCommLA



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



## End the Epidemics FY 2025-26 Budget Proposals

TITLE	FUNDING AMOUNT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
<b>LBTQ Health Equity Initiative Fund</b>	\$15 million / 3 years	<p>Funding to continue the existing Lesbian Queer Bisexual and Transgender (LBTQ) Health Equity Initiative Fund within the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$8 million for Demonstration Projects that seek to provide navigation assistance to LBTQ people with uteruses to healthcare</li> <li>• \$2.5 million for Community Education and Outreach efforts</li> <li>• \$2.5 million to expand access to health and wellness services to low-income LBTQ women</li> <li>• \$2 million for administration of the fund</li> </ul>
<b>Oppose the Transfer California Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Initiative (COPHRI) funds to the Naloxone Distribution Project</b>	Oppose the more than \$8 million transfer from COPHRI to NDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COPHRI funds harm reduction programs and initiatives across the state</li> <li>• The Naloxone Distribution Project is fully funded</li> </ul>
<b>AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Investments to End the Epidemic</b>	Request to fund initiatives with surpluses generated from the ADAP Rebate Fund	<p>Backfill \$60 million in potential federal CDC cuts to HIV prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-Impact HIV Prevention &amp; Surveillance Programs for Health Departments</li> <li>• Medical Monitoring Project</li> <li>• National HIV Behavioral Surveillance</li> <li>• Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Program</li> </ul> <p>Backfill federal cuts to DIS Syndemic Workforce Supplemental Funding Grant, which funds disease investigation specialists (DIS) to do contact tracing and case investigations to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$9 million (2025-2026)</li> <li>• \$18 million (2026-2027 and 2027-2028)</li> </ul> <p>Support the purchase of rapid hepatitis C virus (HCV) testing equipment by facilities serving</p>

		highly HCV-impacted populations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$1 million in 2025-26</li><li>• \$1 million in 2026-27</li></ul>
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*End the Epidemics is a statewide coalition of more than 150 community-based organizations that advocates for anti-racist policies and funding priorities to eliminate health inequities among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color while working collaboratively to end the syndemic of HIV, STIs, viral hepatitis, and overdose in California.*



# LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER

## FY 2025-2026 LBTQ HEALTH EQUITY INITIATIVE FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

***This Los Angeles LGBT Center proposes a budget request of \$15 million over three years in general funds to continue for the existing Lesbian Queer Bisexual and Transgender (LBTQ) Health Equity Initiative Fund within the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).***

Lesbian, bisexual, and queer (LBQ) women, non-binary, and transgender-identified people with uteruses have for far too long been invisible in healthcare settings despite having a disproportionate share of health disparities. This population has historically faced significant barriers to accessing health care, including anti-LGBTQ bias and insufficient access to culturally appropriate care, particularly for preventive services like mammography and other cancer screenings. Further, few funding sources exist that specifically target LBQ women and trans men, and there is currently an alarming lack of medical services and research tailored to the medical needs of LBTQ people with uteruses.

### **LBTQ Health Equity Initiative**

Despite these significant health disparities, LBTQ people with uteruses have largely been invisible within the health field and current state funds from the 2019 LBQ Women's Health Equity Fund to address these health disparities are depleted. To address this gap in care, we urge the legislature to designate \$15 million over three years in general funds for the continuation of the LBTQ Health Equity Initiative Fund to be located within the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). This fund will be used to create a comprehensive grant program that will address LBTQ people with uteruses' health disparities across California.

1. \$8 million for Demonstration Projects that seek to provide navigation assistance to LBTQ people with uteruses in accessing healthcare providers, healthcare coverage, and to provide referrals to culturally appropriate programs and services, including smoking, alcohol and substance use cessation, mental health, and domestic violence programs to increase health care utilization rates and to increase compliance for preventive health screenings.
2. \$2.5 million for Community Education and Outreach efforts, including launching public awareness health campaigns, for LBQ women and allies with an emphasis on targeting LBQ women of color, young adults, and seniors.
3. \$2.5 million to expand the number of low-income LBTQ women who currently lack access to culturally competent health and wellness services to trauma-informed, LBTQ-specific comprehensive medical, health, and psychosocial services, including but not limited to, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and reproductive healthcare. Support ongoing patient retention in care through high-quality case management and patient navigation services, which include emergency assistance for high-risk clients. Provide psychosocial evaluations to new LBQ women, trans and non-binary patients recruited through this initiative to identify their level of need, assist in applying



# LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER

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for appropriate safety net services, refer to additional services, and disseminate any necessary emergency assistance funds.

4. \$2 million for administration of the fund.

## **Los Angeles LGBT Center**

Since 1969, the Los Angeles LGBT Center has cared for, championed, and celebrated LGBT individuals and families in Los Angeles and beyond. Today the Center's over 800 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world. The Center is one of the few Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in the nation with providers who specialize in primary care, HIV/AIDS specialty care, women's care through the Audre Lorde Health Program, and trans specific care through the Trans Wellness Center. In addition, the Center covers a broad range of other services including, but not limited to, mental health, substance abuse, and housing navigation. Across all our programs, we see over 50,000 clients per month; or, over half a million visits each year. In this moment, the need for our services has never been greater.

## **Point of Contact**

For any questions or further information please reach out to the Los Angeles LGBT Center's Policy team by contacting Brenda Villanueva at [bvillanueva@lgbtcenter.org](mailto:bvillanueva@lgbtcenter.org) or by calling (323) 993-2934.

# END THE EPIDEMICS

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,  
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

April 2, 2025

Dr. Erica Pan  
Director, California Department of Public Health  
1616 Capitol Ave.  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dr. Pan:

We are writing to request that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) incorporate into the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) 2025-26 May Revision Estimate three investments community-based advocates have prioritized. These investments are:

(1) **Authorize up to \$60 million for sustaining vital HIV-prevention efforts.** While CDC currently funds these efforts, we expect the Trump administration to terminate that funding very soon. The funding streams we anticipate will be impacted include the “High-Impact HIV Prevention and Surveillance Programs for Health Departments” cooperative agreements, as well as funding for the Medical Monitoring Project, National HIV Behavioral Surveillance, and the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Program. The \$60 million backfill we are proposing would include approximately \$30 million that currently goes directly to Los Angeles and San Francisco counties.

(2) **\$9 million in 2025-26, and \$18 million in 2026-27 and 2027-28, for disease-investigation specialists (DIS).** We intend for these funds to replace rescinded funding from the federal DIS Syndemic Workforce Supplemental Funding Grant for the last four months of 2025-26, then the full year in 2026-27 and 2027-28.

(3) **\$1 million in 2025-26 and \$1 million in 2026-27 to support the purchase of rapid hepatitis C virus (HCV) testing equipment** by facilities serving highly HCV-impacted populations (e.g., substance use disorder treatment facilities). The recent development of a rapid HCV test offers a high-potential opportunity to test people for HCV and link those who test positive to treatment on the same day. However, the equipment needed to analyze the new rapid test is currently prohibitively expensive for many service providers. This funding would enable service providers to obtain the equipment and link more people living with HCV to care.

Although the Trump administration is destroying the federal public-health infrastructure the country needs to maintain progress against the syndemic of HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted infections, and drug overdose, we refuse to allow this administration to hamper our progress here in California—and we don't have to. The state has more than \$1 billion in ADAP rebate funds, and it may use these funds for a wide variety of purposes related to HIV, including HIV prevention and HIV-HCV coinfection. Last year, recognizing that these funds had not been fully leveraged to address the HIV epidemic, the California State Legislature directed the Department to submit to lawmakers “a plan for modernization and expansion of ADAP and related programs with a focus on addressing the epidemic of HIV/AIDS in California.” The Legislature specified that the plan “shall be developed in consultation with stakeholders.”

In the ADAP 2025-26 November Estimate, CDPH presented a plan that is “inclusive of, but not limited to” relatively minor improvements to ADAP and the PrEP Assistance Program. The Department also committed to “continue to develop enhancements to ADAP and related programs in consultation with stakeholders,” including through its Monthly Office of AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Diseases/Hepatitis Stakeholder Engagement Calls. During the last such call on March 20, Department staff requested input on enhancements to ADAP and related programs, and several participants expressed support for the investments that are prioritized in this request.

Given stakeholder support for these investments, CDPH's commitment to consulting with stakeholders in developing proposed investments, and the urgency of the investments in the face of impending, devastating federal cuts, we hope that the Department will incorporate our proposals into the ADAP 2025-26 May Revision Estimate. Together, we can protect the incredible work California has done to bring our state's syndemic to an end.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Frochtzvajg, on behalf of the End the Epidemics Coalition  
Director, Health Justice Policy  
San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Cc: Secretary Kim Johnson, Assistant Secretary Julie Souliere, Chief Marisa Ramos

# END THE EPIDEMICS

Californians Mobilizing to End HIV,  
STIs, Viral Hepatitis & Overdose

## End the Epidemics - Summary of AB 102, the Budget Act of 2025

During an extremely difficult budget year, End the Epidemics (ETE) achieved significant success in its budget requests. **This year, we were able to secure \$75 million from the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Fund and protect \$8.4 million in California Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Initiative (COPHRI) funds from being taken away.** This win includes Disease Intervention Specialists, expanding access to hepatitis C virus (HCV) testing equipment, and up to \$65 million on standby should the federal government rescind federal dollars for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs throughout California. This funding was only made possible through your diligent advocacy, compelling stories, and the real-world impact you demonstrated!

On behalf of End the Epidemics, we are grateful for the support we have received from the California State Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus, especially Caucus Consultants, Jacob Fraker and Natalia Garcia - without their championship this would have been a much more difficult, if not impossible, hill to climb. We are also deeply grateful to State Senator Caroline Menjivar for championing our budget priorities through her dedicated service in the Senate Budget Subcommittee 3 on Health. Her bold and principled stand against rolling back Medi-Cal coverage for undocumented and other populations with “unsatisfactory immigration status” (UIS) sends a powerful message when communities need it most - healthcare is a human right, no matter your immigration status.

### Breakdown of ETE Requests

ETE's budget request for Fiscal Year 2025-26 includes three main components:

**FUNDED:** \$75 million to maintain HIV and STI prevention services through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program Rebate Fund (Section 118 of SB 116);

**FUNDED:** \$8.4 million maintained in the California Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Initiative (COPHRI); and

**UNFUNDED, BUT PROTECTED:** \$15 million over 3 years into the LGBTQ Health Equity Initiative.

1. The budget request from the ADAP Rebate Fund includes three subcomponents:
  - a. \$65 million for backfill of HIV treatment and prevention services

- b. \$9 million to continue the work of Disease Investigation Specialists
  - c. \$1 million for Hepatitis C point-of-care rapid test machines
- \*The Section of text that authorizes this request is [Section 118 of SB 116](#).*

2. Maintaining \$8.4 million in the California Overdose Prevention Harm Reduction Initiative (COPHRI)
  - a. ETE and the CA Syringe Exchange Programs Coalition (CASEP) partnered to secure \$61 million in Opioid Settlement Funds to support syringe services programs (SSPs) throughout the state over the next four years, starting in 2023-24. These programs are responsible for a significant number of opioid reversals—including through Naloxone distribution—critical HIV and hepatitis c prevention services, and other services.
  - b. The Governor’s January budget proposal originally included a transfer of funds to the Naloxone Distribution Project. **The Senate initially rejected this proposal early in the state budget process, the Assembly followed suit, and the Governor ultimately agreed.**
3. \$15 million over three years to fund the LBTQ Health Equity Initiative
  - a. The Los Angeles LGBT Center advocated a general fund request to sustain services. Originally secured in 2019 to support LBQ women and nonbinary and transgender folks with uteruses to access inclusive and culturally competent primary care and support services, the state has been slow to disburse the approximately \$15.5 million housed in the California Department of Public Health. **The request for additional funds was not included in the final budget bill.**
  - b. Importantly, the Governor also proposed a clawback of unspent funds from the LBTQ Health Initiative, among other CDPH funds, in the May Revise. **However, advocates and the legislature successfully pushed back and current LBTQ Women’s Health Equity Initiative funds were protected.**

### **Additional Budget Items Supported by the Coalition**

#### **[Funded] \$20 Million for the Transgender, Gender Nonconforming, and Intersex Wellness and Equity (TGI WE) Fund**

[Section 144 & 149 of AB 102](#) authorizes a total of \$20 million to support TGI WE fund programs. Eligible grantees are TGI-led organizations (organizations led by a TGI person, the organization’s clientele is at least 65% TGI). [AB 116 \(Omnibus Health Trailer Bill\)](#) includes \$5 million from the ADAP Rebate Fund to support HIV prevention services offered by TGI-led organizations. This was a component of ETE’s 2024-25 budget request. AB 116 also amended existing statute to allow TGI-led organizations to offer HIV prevention services. Further, Section 45 of AB 116 amends the statute to allow the TGI WE fund to provide grants for “evidence-based therapeutic arts programs.” Finally, we are also tracking [AB 1487 \(Addis\)](#), which, if signed, would add “Two Spirit” to the fund’s name and allow it to fund additional service categories, like workforce development, behavioral health services, asylee services, and reintegration services.

### **[Funded] \$5 Million for Condom Access in Schools**

Another win from 2024-25 was a \$5 million appropriation from the ADAP Rebate Fund to support condom distribution to high school students. SB 116 amendment revises the expiration date for the availability of funds to 2028.

### **[Funded] \$15 Million to Backfill Title X**

Title X is a federally funded program that covers family planning and prevention services, such as breast and cervical cancer and STI screening, HPV vaccine administration, and HIV prevention and treatment. Essential Access Health, a longtime ETE member organization, is [California's Title X grantee that, in turn, subcontracts with 53 providers throughout the state.](#) [Section 137 of AB 102](#) authorizes \$15 million allocation.

**[Protected] Hepatitis C/STD Prevention Funds** The May Revision proposed a clawback of unspent funds for hepatitis c (HCV) and congenital syphilis surveillance and HCV test kits, upwards of \$2 million. ETE successfully advocated for these funds in prior budget requests. The legislature and the administration rejected this proposal in the final Budget Act.

**[Unfunded] The Health Care Contingency Fund**, which would backfill \$100 million in federal cuts for gender-affirming care, abortion care, and other sensitive services, was not included in the final Budget Act.

### **Medi-Cal**

Medi-Cal, California's version of the Medicaid program, provides health care coverage for approximately 15 million income-eligible residents, regardless of immigration status. Medi-Cal is covered significantly by federal dollars and state general funds, and represents a huge portion of the state's budget. The federal Medicaid program requires every state to provide certain [mandatory benefits, but states have significant leeway in deciding which "optional" benefits](#) they will include, such as prescription outpatient drugs, dental services, and others. Many of the large solutions to the state budget deficit came from rolling back safety net programs, including the largest in California - Medi-Cal - particularly for beneficiaries with UIS. After negotiations between the Legislature and the Governor, the final budget and trailer bills contained the following provisions:

- Restores the [asset limit test](#) to \$130,000 for an individual and \$195,000 for a couple, effective January 1, 2026.
- Enrollment freeze for people with unsatisfactory immigration status (UIS) for purposes of Medi-Cal for people 19 to 59, effective January 1, 2026.
  - The UIS population includes undocumented Californians and people with other immigration statuses. As of this writing (7/1/25), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has not clarified which immigration statuses are included in UIS.
  - Clarifies that people will not age out of Medi-Cal once they turn 19.
  - Maintains a re-enrollment "grace period" of 3 months if people fail to re-certify their enrollment.

- Maintains long-term care and in-home supportive services for the UIS population.
- Eliminates dental coverage for UIS population effective July 1, 2026.
- Eliminates the Prospective Payment Services (PPS) rate on the UIS population effective July 1, 2026. The PPS is a state and federally funded payment to health centers that is mandated by federal law, but the PPS rate used to cover the UIS population is only covered by state dollars.

### **State Fiscal Snapshot**

On Friday, July 27, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 102, the Budget Act of 2025, and several trailer bills, authorizing the state budget for 2025-26. Trailer bills enact the statutory changes needed to implement the funding allocations in the Budget Act. In general, each trailer bill pertains to the different budget subcommittees, such as health, public safety, human services, education, and housing. For ETE's purposes, the State Budget Bill and AB 116 (the Health Omnibus Trailer Bill) are the most relevant.

California ultimately solved for a \$12 billion budget deficit. To be clear, solving includes funding cuts, funding clawbacks, and other fiscal maneuvers that affect programs. Although revenue projections were better than expected in the months leading up to the May Revision, the administration and the Legislative Analyst's Office alike attributed to three things: 1) tariff policies introduced by the new federal administration; 2) an underestimate on Medi-Cal spending (more on Medi-Cal below); and 3) the Palisades and Eaton Canyon fires that devastated Los Angeles County, which has had a huge and complex fiscal impact, including delaying the tax filing deadline for residents until October 15, 2025.

### **A Look Ahead**

- While we should breathe a sigh of relief that we were able to maintain the status quo on some of our most important safety net programs, this budget is "temporary" in the sense that, once the federal government completes its federal reconciliation bill, the state legislature and the Governor may reconvene a special legislative session to revise the state budget. Everyone is bracing for cuts, especially to Medicaid and food assistance programs.
- Senator Monique Limon has been chosen by the legislature to become the next Senate President Pro Tempore. The first woman of color and Latina to hold this office, she will be responsible for leading budget negotiations and appointing several members of the Senate to key budget and policy committees. Limon's district represents a large swath of the Central Coast. She is anticipated to take the reins in early 2026.

### **Take Action**

- Continue supporting ETE's priority legislation by circulating action alerts, submitting letters of support, sharing relevant policy and political information.
- Analyze two-year bills that may begin to move through the legislative process in the second year (January 2026) of this two-year session.

Thanks again to everyone for your incredible work this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out!

Sincerely,

Sebastian Perez  
Policy Committee Co-Chair, End the Epidemics coalition  
(7/1/25)



# ***THE POWER OF AGING: NAVIGATING SERVICES IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTIES***

**September 19, 2025 | 9:30am - 3:00pm**

**Lunch will be provided.**

**Vermont Corridor**

**510 S. Vermont Ave 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90020**

**VALIDATED PARKING: 523 SHATTO PL, LA 90020**

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RSVP.**



**Questions? Email  
[hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org) or  
call 213-738-2816**



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
COMMISSION ON HIV**





# We're Listening

*share your concerns with us.*

**HIV + STD Services  
Customer Support Line**

**(800) 260-8787**

## Why should I call?

The Customer Support Line can assist you with accessing HIV or STD services and addressing concerns about the quality of services you have received.

## Will I be denied services for reporting a problem?

No. You will not be denied services. Your name and personal information can be kept confidential.

## Can I call anonymously?

Yes.

## Can I contact you through other ways?

Yes.

By Email:

[dhspsupport@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:dhspsupport@ph.lacounty.gov)

On the web:

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/QuestionServices.htm>





# Estamos Escuchando

*Comparta sus inquietudes con nosotros.*

**Servicios de VIH + ETS  
Línea de Atención al Cliente**

**(800) 260-8787**

## ¿Por qué debería llamar?

La Línea de Atención al Cliente puede ayudarlo a acceder a los servicios de VIH o ETS y abordar las inquietudes sobre la calidad de los servicios que ha recibido.

## ¿Se me negarán los servicios por informar de un problema?

No. No se le negarán los servicios. Su nombre e información personal pueden mantenerse confidenciales.

## ¿Puedo llamar de forma anónima?

Si.

## ¿Puedo ponerme en contacto con usted a través de otras formas?

Si.

Por correo electrónico:  
[dhspsupport@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:dhspsupport@ph.lacounty.gov)

En el sitio web:  
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/QuestionServices.htm>

