



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
COMMISSION ON HIV



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*While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who have not signed in cannot vote. Sign-in sheets are available upon request.*

**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

February 4, 2019



The Public Policy Committee acts in accordance with the role of the Commission on HIV, as dictated by Los Angeles County Code 3.29.090. Consistent with Commission Bylaws Article VI, Section 2, no Ryan White resources are used to support Public Policy Committee activities.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Aaron Fox, MPM, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Eric Paul Leue	Jason Brown	Dawn McClendon
Terry Goddard, MA, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Eduardo Martinez ( <i>Alt.</i> )	Kyle Gordon	Jane Nachazel
Kyle Baker	Ricky Rosales		Julie Tolentino, MPH
Alasdair Burton ( <i>Alt.</i> )	Greg Wilson		
Jerry D. Gates, PhD			<b>DPH/DHSP STAFF</b>
Lee Kochems, MA			None additional
Katja Nelson, MPP			
Martin Sattah, MD			

**CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET**

- 1) **Agenda:** Public Policy Committee Agenda, 2/4/2019
- 2) **Minutes:** Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, 1/7/2019
- 3) **Template:** 2019 Work Plan Template, Public Policy Committee (PPC), 1/28/2019
- 4) **Summary:** Public Policy 101
- 5) **Summary:** Health Equity Principles
- 6) **Graphic:** Reaching for Health Equity
- 7) **Article:** Los Angeles NDSC, Life Expectancy: A Tale of Two South L.A. Communities, 1/30/2019
- 8) **Priorities:** 2018 Policy Priorities, 1/8/2018
- 9) **Fact Sheet:** Housing Finds A Home in New State Budget? 2019
- 10) **Memorandum:** Sacramento - Pursuit of County-Advocacy Position on State Budget Items Related to Health Care Facility Licensing and Certification and Infectious Disease Infrastructure, 1/31/2019
- 11) **News Release:** Covered California Presents Report to State Leaders on Potential Options to Improve Affordability for Consumers, 2/1/2019
- 12) **Article:** Identity Politics Strengthens Democracy
- 13) **Summary:** Los Angeles County, Governor's FY 2019-20 Proposed Budget, Executive Summary, 1/10/2019
- 14) **Memorandum:** State Budget - Preliminary Analysis of the Governor's FY 2019-20 Proposed Budget, 1/22/2019
- 15) **Table:** 2019-2020 Legislative Docket, 2/4/2019
- 16) **Assembly Bill:** No. 4: (Arambula, Bonta, Chiu) Medi-Cal: eligibility, 12/3/2018
- 17) **Assembly Bill:** No. 174: (Wood) Personal income taxes: credits: health insurance premiums, 1/8/2019
- 18) **Senate Bill:** No. 29: (Lara, Durazo, Arambula) Medi-Cal: eligibility, 12/3/2018
- 19) **Senate Bill:** No. 65: (Pan) California Health Benefit Exchange: financial assistance, 1/8/2019

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- 20) **Senate Bill:** No. 159: (Wiener, Gloria, Chiu) HIV: pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis, 1/23/2019  
21) **Senate Bill:** No. 175: (Pan) Healthcare coverage: minimum essential coverage, 1/28/2019  
22) **Medicare Alert:** APLA Health, Medicare Part D Drug Program, 1/2019
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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm.

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION #1:** Approve the Agenda Order, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).

**2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

**MOTION #2:** Approve the 1/7/2019 Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 3. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON ITEMS OF INTEREST WITHIN COMMISSION JURISDICTION:** There were no comments.

**III. COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

- 4. NON-AGENDIZED:** There were no comments.

**IV. REPORTS**

**5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT:**

- a. Committee Work Plan 2019:** Ms. Tolentino noted the Work Plan was routinely included in the packet for review.

**b. Public Policy 101:**

- Ms. Tolentino noted this and the Health Equity items were in the packet to help inform any update to the Policy Priorities as well as Legislative Docket development. They can be especially helpful for new Committee members.
- The Sycamore Institute document provides an overview of public policy, how it impacts health, and drivers of health. The "health in all policies" approach seeks to incorporate health into all policy work in five broad areas.
- Health impacts reach past clinical care to include health behavior, the social and economic environment, and the physical environment. Consequently, public policy can impact health via: creation and regulation of public goods, e.g., roads; regulation of natural resources, e.g., clean air; requirements and mandates to protect citizens, e.g., seat belt and Driving Under the Influence (DUI) laws; direct support, e.g., Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); creation of opportunities and incentives, e.g., CalGrants to support improved education or tobacco taxes to discourage use.

**c. Health Equity Policy Priorities:**

- The Institute for Healthcare Improvement document provides an overview of health equity which underlines that the Commission's work is intended for the greater good. It provides five guiding principles: substance over show; everyone plays a part; the last will be first; seeing barriers with new eyes; and, taking a personal journey as a group.
- The graphic reflects the difference between equality, in which all receive the same resources; and equity, in which the goal is to ensure all have the same opportunity. Equity may require different resources to reach the same goal.
- "Life Expectancy: A Tale of Two South L.A. Communities," also in the packet, is unusual because it compares two neighboring communities rather than the more common approach of comparing widely separated areas.

**6. CO-CHAIR REPORT:**

- a. Co-Chair Elections:** Mr. Fox noted nominations were opened at the prior meeting. Mr. Fox and Ms. Nelson were nominated at that time and no additional nominations were received. Mr. Fox thanked Mr. Goddard, outgoing Co-Chair, for his service.

**MOTION 3A:** Elect Aaron Fox, MPM and Katja Nelson as Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, as nominated (*Passed by Consensus*).

## **V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7. REVIEW 2018 POLICY PRIORITIES FOR 2019:**

- Mr. Fox noted each year the Committee reviews and updates its Policy Priorities. Over time, the priorities have become more focused, inclusive, and broader so fewer minute adjustments are needed.
- Once finalized, Policy Priorities are approved by the full Commission and forwarded to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).
- ➡ Revise Policy Priorities, as follows:
  - ▶ Bullet 2: Revise to, "Protect and expand HIV and STD service access... "
  - ▶ Bullet 8: Add lens statement on social equity.
  - ▶ Bullet 11: Revise to, "...HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention and STD drugs."
  - ▶ Bullet 12: Consider whether still needed. If retained, add PrEP-Assistance Program (PrEP-AP).
  - ▶ Elevate reduction of stigma for using PrEP.
- ➡ Return to next meeting with revisions as "Draft 2019 Policy Priorities" for additional review.

### **8. COUNTY POLICY ISSUES:**

- a. **Housing Policy:**
  - Mr. Goddard reported nothing new specific to Los Angeles County (LAC). Governor Gavin Newsom's state budget, however, significantly increases housing-related funding as reflected in the summary in the packet.
  - He sees the housing issue mainly as one of supply and demand and asks local communities to adhere to state-level guidelines. If they miss goals, then Governor Newsom proposes withholding transportation funds from the gas tax.
- b. **Los Angeles County HIV/AIDS Strategy (LACHAS) Policy Work Group:**
  - Mr. Fox reported the Work Group met that morning. It refined language on some of the policy recommendations to be more inclusive of work anticipated during the coming year. It also discussed some legislation.
  - The Work Group meets at 11:00 am prior to the monthly Public Policy Committee.
- c. **STD Motion Follow-Up:**
  - Mr. Fox reported letters have gone to existing contractors advising them of contract augmentations. Concurrently, a Request For Proposals (RFP) for both new providers and to expand services offered by existing providers was in its late stages and awaiting Department of Public Health (DPH) leadership approval.
  - Another part of the motion was that LAC would join with community efforts to seek state funding for STDs. LAC is working with the Health Officers Association of California (HOAC) to propose \$50 million in ongoing State General Funds for local health departments to address the spread of infectious diseases. Specifics were not yet available.
  - The community was also asking for \$20 million ongoing each for STDs and for HIV prevention in State General Funds. He did not know how, or if, the proposals align. He has asked the Chief Executive Office, Intergovernmental Affairs, for an update, but was disappointed at the lack of coordination, especially when the STD motion called for it.

### **9. STATE LEGISLATION AND BUDGET:** ➡ Mr. Fox will provide budget documents for review at the next meeting.

- a. **End the Epidemics - HIV, HCV, and STDs:**
  - Mr. Fox reported the organizing committee coordinated several statewide community convenings over the past year. A community call to action went out for the Governor and Legislature to create a plan to end all three epidemics. That call has been communicated to the administration. There has not yet been a response.
  - Community budget asks will be available by the next meeting. The HIV and STD asks will be, as noted earlier, \$20 million each in ongoing funding. The HCV ask was not yet known, but all will be jointly supported by HIV, STD, HCV, and sexual health advocates. Mr. Fox did not yet know how LAC planned to participate. He had invited the LAC lobbyist to participate at the 2/11/2019 budget advocacy meeting, but had not yet heard back.
  - Mr. Fox has advised Elan Shultz, Senior Health Deputy, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, that collaboration has been ineffective.
- b. **California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS (OA) Leadership:**
  - Mr. Fox reported Marissa Ramos, PhD, had been Interim Chief, OA, after the departure of Karen Mark, MD, MPH. She was returned to her prior position as Chief, Surveillance, Research and Evaluation Branch, OA, due to Human Resources rules pertaining to the length of time for an interim appointment. The community thought that reasoning poor.

- A letter within the week from advocates will demand the return of Dr. Ramos as Interim Chief, OA. A similar letter from Senator Scott Wiener was also expected. It was anticipated such efforts will be successful fairly soon.
- The state was seeking to integrate the STD Control Branch and OA, much as various jurisdictions have done. The STD Control Branch Chief has also departed his position for one in corrections so progress was delayed. Mr. Baker reported DHSP had heard an organizational structure had been developed and the state wanted to implement it, but both Branches lacked leadership, prospects were unlikely to acquiesce to a predetermined organization chart, and even offices for the Branches were physically in two different cities.

**c. Legislative Docket:**

- Mr. Fox noted this was the first year of California's two-year legislative session. Bills were starting to be introduced, but most were not yet developed since bills can be introduced with "intent language," i.e., a general description.
- Ms. Tolentino has updated the Docket. Newly introduced pertinent bills to date were on the first page.
- Many bills pertain to health care expansion. Governor Newsom supports a state health care individual mandate. That would generate funds for the state to provide subsidies for those making 400%-600% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). They make too much to be eligible for federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) subsidies, but too little for good care.
- SB 65 reflects another proposal from Governor Newsom's budget. Health For All now ensures anyone up to age 18 and otherwise eligible for Medi-Cal can be covered regardless of citizenship status. SB 65 would extend that to age 26. Should this bill pass, it would trigger the "payer of last resort" provision of the Ryan White Program (RWP). PLWH currently covered by RWP or, My Health LA in LAC, would move to full scope Medi-Cal.
- SB 159 increases PrEP access and removes barriers. It would let pharmacists provide PrEP and PEP; and would eliminate current health insurance barriers, mainly prior authorizations, thereby aligning private insurance with Medi-Cal policy.
- Mr. Fox noted there may be more federal bills on the Docket this year than usual as a consequence of the 2018 elections and change in House majority. Proposals include bills on voting rights and drug pricing.
- President Trump was expected to announce a new commitment for an HIV-free generation by 2030 in his 2/5/2019 State of the Union address. He has also appointed two Co-Chairs to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) which had been on hiatus. It was scheduled to meet in March. HIV/AIDS legislative support was not known.
- ➡ Refer bills of interest to staff for inclusion on the Docket at the next meeting for Committee review.
- ➡ Consider for addition to Docket:
  - ▶ AB 53: Prevents landlords from discriminating against formerly incarcerated households.
  - ▶ SB 50: Reduced iteration of last year's SB 827 for transit-rich housing (Wiener), which failed.
  - ▶ ACA 1: Proposed Constitutional amendment to change how people vote on special tax measures.

**10. FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE:**

- a. **Medicare Part D Drug Update:** Mr. Fox noted the proposed rule would change classes and how people access drugs in Medicare. The time to submit comments had expired. Federal, state, local, and personal comments he saw were all opposed and believed the rule would limit access to drugs. Response to comments is at the discretion of the department.

**VI. NEXT STEPS**

**11. TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP:** There were no additional items.

**12. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING:** There were no additional items.

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**13. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**14. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.