Executive Summary

On October 9, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom completed action on legislative measures for the first year of the 2021-22 Legislative Session. This year, in consultation with the Board of Supervisors (Board) and in collaboration with County departments, the Chief Executive Office’s Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (LAIR) Branch advocated on 152 State legislative and budget proposals that will protect, support, and/or enhance County operations, programs, and the well-being of constituents. Of these proposals, over 100 were acted on, in support or opposition, consistent with the County’s advocacy position. This report summarizes these strategic advocacy efforts and the Attachment highlights some of the County’s major advocacy wins.

County-Sponsored Proposals

In 2021, the County’s successful advocacy efforts led to the enactment of nine County-sponsored and co-sponsored Assembly Bills (AB) and Senate Bills (SB). This includes bills that will help local governments increase affordable housing; ensure that local entities have the authority to protect our communities against hazardous threats; increase diversion and rehabilitation opportunities for justice-involved individuals; expand the type of professional experience a person may have to be eligible for nomination for membership on an assessment appeals board within the County; as well as groundbreaking legislation that allows the County to return land unjustly taken from the late Charles and Willa Bruce to their descendants.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"
Two County co-sponsored proposals, AB 71 (Rivas), related to annual funding for homelessness and AB 988 (Bauer-Kahan), related to establishing the 988 Suicide and Prevention Crisis Hotline Center, will move forward as two-year bills in 2022. In addition, the County’s advocacy on these measures helped yield related State Budget funding in 2021, including the $12 billion Bring California Home Act and an investment of $20 million in California’s network of emergency call centers to support the launch of the new 988 hotline.

County-Advocacy on State Budget Proposals

The County advocated in support of 63 State Budget proposals, of which 59 proposals were enacted in the 2021 State Budget Act. This includes proposals that provide critical funding for: homelessness and housing, economic recovery, bridging the digital divide, protecting the environment, and other additional funding in the health and social services arenas that will improve the quality of life for County residents. For additional details, please refer to the CEO’s FY 2021-22 State Budget Act Update.

County-Advocacy Legislation

LAIR worked closely with Board offices and impacted departments to review legislative proposals and to identify legislation that had the potential to impact County operations and programs. Accordingly, the County actively advocated in sponsorship, co-sponsorship, support, or in opposition of 88 County-related bills. Of these, 48 bills were acted on in this first year of the session, with 42 acted on consistent with the County’s advocacy position. The remaining 40 bills are expected to continue as two-year bills in the second year of the 2021-22 Legislative Session. A summary of bills which the County actively advocated on and bills that the County closely monitored in 2021 can be found at: County of Los Angeles Bills of Interest. In addition, details for individual bills can be found on the County’s tracking system at: County of Los Angeles Legislative Tracking System.

Other Legislative Efforts

Throughout the course of the Legislative Session, LAIR coordinated more than 50 meetings and roundtable discussions that members of the Board and Department Heads participated in with members of the Administration and the Legislature, to discuss the County’s program and funding priorities. LAIR staff also partnered with various organizations like the California State Association of Counties, County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California, labor, and community partners on legislative and budget proposals to support county service-related programs and resources.

Overall, the County’s Sacramento Advocates lead and/or participated in 2,789 advocacy meetings to advance the County’s priorities. In addition, the Sacramento Advocates and Legislative Analysts led 167 legislative briefings and/or presentations, as well as monitored and/or attended 950 legislative hearings in support of the County’s legislative priorities.
Each Supervisor  
December 17, 2021  
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The second year of the 2021-22 Legislative Session is expected to begin on January 3, 2022. LAIR will continue to work with Board offices and departments to advance the County’s priorities.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Samara Ashley, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-1464 or sashley@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN:SA  
PC:OR:sy  
Attachment  
c: All Department Heads
COUNTY SPONSORED LEGISLATION

Successfully lead efforts to enact nine County-sponsored legislative measures.

AB 634 (Carrillo): Affordability Covenants on Housing
Will ensure that communities are able to increase their affordable housing stock for the long term.

AB 712 (Calderon): Increasing the Delegated Authority for Contract Change Orders
Will help counties expedite project delivery for large capital and infrastructure projects.

AB 1043 (L. Bryan): Define Acutely Low-Income Households
Will allow local governments or the State to require that subsidized housing projects set aside units reserved for persons or families below 15 percent of Area Median Income (AMI) or lower.

AB 1203 (Burke): Assessment Appeals Board (AAB) Appointments
Will allow the County to more readily fill assessment appeals board (AAB) positions and better serve constituents.

AB 1546 (Chau): City of Alhambra/Alhambra Unified School District (AUSD) Elections
Allows the City of Alhambra and the AUSD to conduct a special election in order to proceed with its transition from at-large to by-trustee-area elections for members of the board of education.

SB 796 (Bradford): Bruce’s Beach
Allows the County to return the property known as Bruce’s Beach to the living descendants of its rightful owners, the late Charles and Willa Bruce.

AB 480 (Carrillo): Hazardous Materials
Expands the County’s authority to protect communities and constituents against hazardous threats.

SB 317 (Stern): Competence to Stand Trial
Will increase diversion and rehabilitation opportunities for pretrial individuals deemed incompetent to stand trial.

SB 461 (Cortese): Unfair Competition Law Enforcement
Allows county counsels to file civil actions under the Unfair Competition Law

COUNTY ADVOCACY MEASURES

Successfully advocated in support of over 100 legislative and budget measures of significant impact to the County, including:

Homelessness
$7.3 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, plus $4.47 billion in FY 2022-23 for a total homelessness package of $12 billion.

Bridging the Digital Divide
$6 billion over three years for broadband infrastructure and improved access to broadband services.

SB 62 (Durazo): Garment Worker Protection Act
Expands wage theft protections for garment manufacturing workers, including prohibiting the practice of piece-rate compensation for garment manufacturing.

California Dream Fund
$35 million for micro-grants of up to $10,000 to seed entrepreneurship and small business creation in underserved small business groups.

AB 48 (Gonzalez): Law Enforcement Use of Force
Sets clear standards on when and how kinetic energy projectiles or chemical agents are used by law enforcement for crowd control.

Exide Cleanup
$322.4 million over three years to clean an additional approximately 3,000 residential properties with lead contamination from the former Exide battery facility in Vernon.

Eviction Moratorium Extension
Extension of the State’s eviction moratorium that was enacted on January 29, 2021.

AB 968 (Gilpoon): Law Enforcement Gangs
Requires all law enforcement agencies to maintain a policy that prohibits participation in law enforcement gangs and makes a violation of that policy grounds for termination.

Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program
$765.7 million in FY 2021-22, $1.4 billion in FY 2022-23, and $2.1 million in FY 2023-24 for competitive grants to qualified entities to construct, acquire, and rehabilitate real estate assets or to invest in needed mobile crisis infrastructure.

Family First Prevention Services Act
$222.5 million in FY 2021-22 to be expanded over three years to assist counties with new prevention services implementation efforts allowable under the new federal FFPSA.