



County-Sponsored Legislation

AB 67 (Muratsuchi) - Homeless Courts Pilot Program – This sponsored bill would establish the Homeless Courts Pilot Program, a grant pilot program for eligible applicants to provide comprehensive community-based services for homeless individuals involved with the criminal justice system. AB 67 directs Judicial Council to award grants on a competitive basis to counties and cities that would provide a diversion program; legal representation; court appearances where participants can access service providers in one location; temporary, time-limited, or permanent housing support; mental health services; substance use disorder and withdrawal management; and, criminal record clearing services. This measure would create opportunities for funding the creation of new homeless court programs or expansion of an existing homeless court program. Homeless Court programs can intercept the jail-to-streets cycle by diverting unhoused individuals involved in the criminal legal system away from jail, and connecting them to the variety of supports and services that they need to enter and stay in housing. This measure would provide the County and cities another tool to help address the homelessness epidemic.

AB 875 (Gabriel) - Tracking Unlawful Detainer Data to Improve Eviction Prevention Services – This co-sponsored bill would direct trial courts to provide the Judicial Council of California with specified anonymous data on unlawful detainer cases. It would require total numbers for cases filed, as well as the following disaggregated data on case outcomes by ZIP Code: 1) cases filed each month; 2) cases in which defendants were represented by counsel at case closing; 3) cases in which a fee waiver was granted; 4) cases that were subject to default, stipulated, or other types of pre-trial judgments; 5) cases that went to a bench or jury trial; 6) cases that were dismissed before trial at the plaintiff's request; and 7) cases that resulted in judgment for plaintiff or defendant. The bill would also require courts to report to Judicial Council case summary data on COVID-19 Rental Debt in Small Claims Court, aggregated by ZIP Code, and require the Judicial Council to make this unlawful detainer case data publicly available on its website. This data would allow policy makers and service providers to more effectively plan and implement eviction prevention and defense programs, and help keep vulnerable people in their homes, reducing inflows into homelessness.

2023

COUNTY-SPONSORED PROPOSALS

County-Sponsored Legislation

AB 562 (Carrillo) - Repealing Existing Law Pertaining to Los Angeles County

Fiscal Control – This sponsored bill repeals Sections 30600 – 30608 of the California Government Code, which were enacted in 1996 during a time when the County was suffering from a severe fiscal emergency. Prior law required the County to comply with the Accounting Standards and Procedures for Counties as promulgated by the State Controller, and submit its proposed budget to the Governor, the Legislature, and the State Auditor, among other requirements. These sections of law were no longer needed as the County recovered from its fiscal emergency shortly thereafter and, has been given the highest and/or second highest credit rating by the three largest credit rating agencies as a result of its continuous strong financial status. The County fully complies with the Accounting Standards and Procedures for Counties, and posts its recommended, adopted, and final adopted budgets, as well as other key budget documents and factsheets, annually on the Chief Executive Office’s website where they are easily accessible by the public. Signed by the Governor.

AB 1431 (Zbur) - The California Housing Security Act

– This co-sponsored bill would establish a housing subsidy pilot program in up to four counties to reduce housing insecurity among low-income individuals and families. The California Housing Security Program would provide housing subsidies to eligible low-income individuals and families to not exceed \$2,000 a month. The program would target households that are experiencing or at high risk of homelessness, including older adults and adults with disabilities, regardless of their immigration status.

AB 1512 (Bryan) - Preserving Social Security Benefits for Youth in Foster Care

– This Co-sponsored bill would amend the law to ensure that conserving youths’ Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits becomes the standard practice in Los Angeles County and throughout the state of California. Under AB 1512, County placing agencies would be required to: 1) screen and begin applying for all SSA benefits within 60 days of a child’s entry into care; 2) provide notice to child and attorney when benefits are applied for/received, and engage youth in planning for conserved funds; 3) ensure funds are used for child’s unmet current needs or conserved for their foreseeable future needs, and monitor annual accounting on use of funds; and 4) provide financial counseling or training to new representative payees on establishing proper accounts to preserve eligibility/managing/disbursing funds.

County-Sponsored Budget Proposals

Creating Regional Mental Health Treatment Centers for Justice-Involved Individuals – This proposal is a budget request to develop mental health facilities across the County that would house and treat mentally ill justice-involved individuals in lieu of jail, as well as ongoing funding to support operations. These local treatment facilities are intended to provide services across the health spectrum, including medical services, behavioral health treatment, and substance use disorder treatment. Facilities would also include a subset of locked beds to appropriately serve individuals with the most serious mental illnesses.

Repurpose and Reimagine the Challenger Memorial Youth Center – This proposal is to continue to advocate for \$25 million to repurpose and reimagine the Challenger Memorial Youth Center. The Challenger Project aims to help under-served and under-resourced youth transition safely and securely to an independent adulthood. The program will serve participants (ages 18-25 who were involved with the criminal justice or foster care systems, or who are homeless) who will live on the Challenger campus for 6-18 months while they are offered educational pathways and career training, as well as mental health services and robust life-skills instruction.

Improving the Cannabis Industry through Equity Programming and Capacity Building – This proposal is a budget request for \$20 million in one-time State General Fund (SGF) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 to augment the State's Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions. This funding would help ensure access to critical financial assistance and technical support for equity applicants and licensees, as Los Angeles County establishes its Cannabis Equity Program.



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County-Sponsored Budget Proposals

Building Up Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs) to Support the County's Alternative Crisis Response (ACR) Efforts

– This proposal would seek additional funding to build-up Los Angeles County's Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs). Although, the County anticipates expanding bed capacity for behavioral health services through its Restorative Care Village projects and the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) funding, there is an increased need for CSUs across Los Angeles County. While it is not quantifiable at this time, there will be a better projection of the additional need within the County's behavioral health system once those new beds come online.

Additional CSUs, including mental health urgent care centers (MHUCCs), would support patients in crisis. In July 2022, the Department of Mental Health contracted for the County's new 988 hotline, expanded the Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRT), and added contracted Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT) so that County residents would have access to 24/7 mobile crisis outreach services. The addition of the 988 hotline and expansion of County mobile crisis teams will lead to increased utilization of psychiatric emergency rooms, MHUCCs and CSUs. The expansion of MHUCCs and CSUs are a critical component to meeting clients' needs at sites that would be an alternative to hospital emergency rooms.



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