# CATCHING UP WITH

APRIL 11, 2025

## LATEST NEWS

## **COUNTY ADVOCACY- RELATED ACTIONS**

At the April 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> meetings, the Board of Supervisors took the following legislative-related actions:

#### Support for Assembly Bill (AB) 1231 (Elhawary): Offer Diversion Programs and Services for Low-Level Non-Violent Felonies



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The Board directed the Chief Executive Office – Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (CEO-LAIR), to advocate in support of <u>AB 1231</u>, legislation which would provide a legal pathway for judges to consider offering diversion programs and services for some people charged with low-level, nonviolent felonies, and the budget request to fund the "Jails to Jobs" employment training and case management pilot program in the County. Additional details on the motion can be found <u>here</u>.

# <u>Support for Senate Bill (SB) 782 (Perez): Establishing Financing Solutions to</u> <u>Support Altadena Recovery</u>

The Board directed CEO-LAIR to sponsor <u>SB 782</u>, legislation that would amend existing Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District and Climate Resilience District law to expedite the process for establishing a district to finance disaster recovery projects and programs and address the risk for future disasters. Additional details on the motion can be found <u>here</u>.

#### • Los Angeles County Embracing Neurodiversity in the Workplace and Creating Career Pathways for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

The Board directed CEO-LAIR to support legislative or regulatory proposals that promote employment rights, including proposals that: 1) Eliminate the Federal subminimum wage for workers with disabilities under Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which permits certificate-holding employers to pay workers with disabilities less than the minimum wage; 2) Address threshold limits to create non-interference with Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income payments if work is disrupted and allow stipend or regular payment that does not interfere with other benefits received; and 3) Provide flexibility to maintain local and State benefits, including In-Home Supportive Services, non-cash-based benefits, and regional center services. Additional details on the motion can be found <u>here</u>.

#### • Implementing Consultant Recommendations to Enhance the County's Oversight of Skilled Nursing Facilities

The Board directed CEO-LAIR to engage skilled nursing advocates and stakeholders, and report back to the Board in 90 days on legislative opportunities to increase protections and quality of life for skilled nursing facilities residents. Additional details on the motion can be found <u>here</u>.



Upcoming Board of Supervisors' meeting dates and agendas can be found <u>here</u>.

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The County is also advocating on the following legislation and proposals:

#### STATE

#### SUPPORT AB 50 (BONTA) - OVER-THE-COUNTER CONTRACEPTIVES

<u>AB 50</u>, would limit the application of pharmacy law requirements related to selfadministered hormonal contraceptives that are prescription only and would authorize a pharmacist to furnish over-the-counter contraceptives without following those standardized procedures or protocols. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

#### SUPPORT AB 54 (KRELL) - ACCESS TO SAFE ABORTION CARE ACT

<u>AB 54</u>, would make legislative findings about medication abortion, with a focus on use of the drugs mifepristone and misoprostol Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

#### SUPPORT AB 247 (BRYAN) IF AMENDED - INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL HAND CREW MEMBERS: WAGES

<u>AB 247</u>, would establish a wage of \$19 per hour for an inmate firefighter for the duration of actively fighting a fire. The County will support AB 247 *if amended* to clarify that the State will provide funding for inmate firefighter wages. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

# <u>SUPPORT AB 260 (AGUIAR-CURRY) - SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH</u> <u>CARE</u>

<u>AB 260</u>, would make legislative findings about medication abortion, with a focus on use of the drugs mifepristone and misoprostol. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

## <u>SUPPORT AB 320 (BENNETT) IF AMENDED - PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:</u> <u>ELIGIBILITY: INCOME EXCLUSIONS</u>

AB 320, would exempt any compensation earned as a pupil member of a charter school governing board or board of education from being considered as income or assets when determining eligibility for scholarships for public colleges and any means-tested program. Amendments to require that the student must meet the student exemption criteria will ensure equal treatment of high school students who receive wages and those who receive compensation. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

#### SUPPORT AB 475 (WILSON) IF AMENDED - PRISONS AND JAILS: EMPLOYMENT OF INMATES

<u>AB 475</u>, would establish a paid, voluntary work program for California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) inmates and establish that compensation for any work assignment in a county jail will be set by local ordinance. The County will support AB 475 *if amended* to clarify that the State will provide funding for CDCR inmates who perform work assignments while held in a county facility or that the county compensation policy takes precedence. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here.</u>

#### SUPPORT AB 898 (BRYAN) - THE FAMILY URGENT RESPONSE SYSTEM

<u>AB 898</u>, would authorize county-based mobile response systems to utilize staff based on local needs and expand their usage to include those receiving family preservation or voluntary or court-ordered family maintenance service. This bill would help county welfare departments attend to local needs, such as providing support to foster youth with acute needs, offering transition support during placement changes, and supporting families who are receiving family preservation and voluntary or court-ordered family maintenance services, to prevent entries into foster care. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

## <u>SUPPORT AB 1161 (HARABEDIAN) - PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: STATE OF</u> <u>EMERGENCY OR HEALTH EMERGENCY</u>

<u>AB 1161</u>, would require the State Department of Social Services, for purposes of California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, CalFresh, In Home Supportive Services, the California Food Assistance Program and Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants, and the State Department of Health Care Services, for Medi-Cal purposes, to provide continuous eligibility for a recipient or beneficiary who has been displaced by, or who has otherwise been affected by, a state of emergency or a health emergency. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

## SUPPORT AB 1288 (ADDIS) - REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS

<u>AB 1288</u>, would: extend the period of supervision allowed for an environmental health specialist trainee from the current three-year period to a period not to exceed five years; include body art and medical waste in the scope of practice for registered environmental health specialists; and change the terminology used to distinguish local directors of environmental health. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

#### • SUPPORT SB 498 (BECKER) - COUNTY DETENTION: COMMISSARY

<u>SB 498</u>, would require the provision of free hygiene products to all adults and juveniles in custody and forgiveness of existing inmate debt accrued for purchasing hygiene products. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here.</u>

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## SUPPORT SB 501 (ALLEN) - HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ACT

<u>SB 501,</u> would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to prepare a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework, a Wildfire Risk Baseline and Forecast, and a Wildfire Mitigation Scenarios Report to coordinate and target wildfire mitigation investments statewide. This bill would support the County's wildfire prevention activities by maximizing the efficacy of statewide investments in wildfire planning. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here.</u>

## SUPPORT SB 508 (VALLADARES) - OUT-OF-STATE TELEHEALTH CONTINUUM OF CARE

<u>SB 508</u>, would expand telehealth access for patients with cancer by allowing them to access out-of-state physicians for medical services through telehealth platforms. This bill would provide telehealth access as a safe and effective way to ensure patients receive the cancer care they need. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

## CELEBRATING ARMENIAN HERITAGE

The Board of Supervisors has declared April as <u>Armenian History Month</u>, acknowledging the enduring legacy and remarkable contributions of this resilient community.

Over 200,000 Armenians live within the Los Angeles County region, making LA County home to the greatest number of Armenians outside of Armenia itself!

Visit the <u>LA County Library</u> to learn more about Armenian History Month and Armenian traditions and culture.



## NATIONAL PET DAY!



The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors formally declared April 11th National Pet Day, and the <u>Department of Animal Care and Control</u> (DACC) is celebrating with an adoption promo for all dogs 35+lbs.

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From April 11th-May 10th, DACC is waiving adoption fees, including microchip and spay/neuter. There's no better way to celebrate National Pet Day than by giving a furry friend a forever home.



Loma Alta Park in Altadena

Photo Credit: (Dañiel Martinez/LAist)

#### **DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY RESOURCES**

#### Right of Entry Forms – Updated Deadline and Expanded Scope

- Owner-occupied condos, multi-family units, and certain commercial properties <u>may now eligible</u> for the LA fire debris removal program. Impacted LA County residents now have until **April 15, 2025** to submit a Right of Entry form to opt-in to the government-run debris removal program or opt-out.
- The Right of Entry form can be found <u>here</u>.
  - Opt-In Help and General Questions: (844) 347-3332
  - Opt-Out Help: (888) 479-7328

#### CalFire: Updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps

 CalFire and the California State Fire Marshal have released updated Recommended Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps for Local Responsibility Areas throughout the State of California. Typically updated every ten years, the 2025 maps classify lands within local jurisdictions as moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zones using the latest data on fuels, fire history, weather, terrain, and other relevant factors. The LA County Board of Supervisors, Fire Department, and CalFire encourage residents to review and comment on the proposed maps.

#### Mosquitos – Vector Control Support

- Unmaintained swimming pools and large sources of standing water will boost mosquito presence if not drained or treated. A single pool can produce up to 3 million mosquitoes in just one month. If you are a property owner in a burn area and having issues maintaining a pool or removing standing water on your property, consult with your respective Vector Control District.
  - Eaton Fire <u>San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District</u>
  - Palisades Fire <u>West Vector Control District</u>

#### Financial Assistance and Loan Programs – Extensions

- <u>SBA Physical Damage</u> May 30, 2025
- <u>Disaster Unemployment Assistance</u> June 10<sup>th</sup>
- HUD Foreclosure Relief for Wildfire-Affected Homeowners July 7<sup>th</sup>
- <u>Economic Injury Disaster Loans</u> October 15<sup>th</sup>

Additional Resources: LA County Recovers Department of Mental Health
Public Health: Fire Safety & Health Information

- One Stop Permit Centers: LA County Eaton/Palisades
  - <u>City of Los Angeles</u>
  - <u>City of Malibu</u>
  - <u>City of Pasadena</u>

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### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RELEASES 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Los Angeles Health Services (LA Health Services) has released its <u>2024 Annual Report</u>, showcasing a year of exemplary achievements in patient care, innovation, and community health. LA Health Services continues to set the standard for integrated public health systems nationwide and serve as a trusted lifeline for the county's most vulnerable residents.

Key Highlights:

- LA Health Services is proud to operate LA County's top two Level-1 Trauma Centers, a top level Neo-Natal ICU, a Critical Care Burn Unit, as well as urgent care clinics.
- LA General Medical Center received two consecutive 'A' grades from Leapfrog Group, a nationally recognized authority on hospital safety.
- Olive View-UCLA Medical Center was named one of America's top maternity hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.
- LA General's Safer at Home award-winning program offers concierge-level, virtual home care services for acute care conditions, with the Singapore Ministry of Health looking to replicate the model.

LA Health Services continues to invest in resources to address the social determinants of health that impact patient outcomes far beyond the walls of a hospital or clinic.



The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) Department's <u>Alternative Crisis Response</u> (<u>ACR) Program</u> serves as the County's first responders for mental health crisis support. ACR services are available 24/7 at (800) 854-7771.

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ACR offers safe, specialized support for people experiencing a mental health crisis, as an alternative to police or paramedics. The goal of ACR is to treat individuals quickly, effectively, and with empathy, and to meet their needs with the least restrictive level of care, so they can remain in their community. ACR mental health experts bring calm and clarity to a crisis and aim to prevent the avoidable consequences of a police encounter, like use of force, arrest, and incarceration. To learn more about ACR, visit their website <u>here</u>.

✓ Federal & State Bill Tracker

✓ 2025-26 Federal Legislative Platform

🧭 <u>2025-26</u> State Legislative Platform