

February 5, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senate Health and Human Services Subcommittee Hearing on Emergency Medical Services

The Senate Health and Human Services Subcommittee on California's Emergency Medical Services will hold an informational hearing in Sacramento on Wednesday, February 12, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The hearing will focus on California's emergency departments, trauma care centers, first responders, and emergency transport systems. The Subcommittee Chair, Senator Gloria Romero, is requesting members from various county boards of supervisors, including Los Angeles County, to testify at the hearing. Virginia Hastings, the County's Emergency Medical Services Director, also has been invited to testify. A copy of the tentative agenda is attached.

Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

SB 108 (Romero), as introduced on January 30, 2003, is identical to County-supported SBX1 5 (Romero), which establishes a five-cent fee per alcoholic beverage distributed by a wholesaler to a retailer for consumption in the State of California to fund local emergency medical services providers. **The Department of Health Services recommends that the County support SB 108 because it would help to secure a dedicated funding stream for the County's emergency medical and trauma systems, and we concur.** Consistent with existing Board policy to support legislative proposals which provide permanent and stable funding for the County's public and private emergency and trauma care systems, our Sacramento Advocates will be seeking passage of SB 108. The bill has not been set for hearing.

Each Supervisor
February 5, 2003
Page 2

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK
MAL:MS:ib

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Local 660
All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants