



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
1.		Favor	Girstin K Bergquist	Medical debt relief
		Item Total	1	
Grand Total			1	

Statement Regarding Debt Relief Initiative June 24th 2024

I am a survivor of intimate partner violence. In 2019 I was a victim of a domestic assault. It wreaked havoc on my body by causing several injuries and it led to a massive amount of ER, primary and specialist visits. I faced a lot of backlash from my abuser after he was apprehended multiple times. Due to being protected physically on a restraining order, the retaliation I faced came mainly in the form of financial abuse. This also consisted of canceling my PPO insurance leaving me without ability to see the doctors and specialists that I had established care with for years at cedar Sinai Medical Center. Within the last 4 years I have racked up a massive amount of debt in which there would be no way that I could repay this within this decade. If it weren't for a couple generous doctors who understood the situation and provided me pro bono care, I would not be back in the physical condition nor the mental condition that I am today. Medical debt relief would provide a way to credit repair, including to alleviate the compounding nature of stresses surrounding debt relief.

I appreciate your consideration.

Best, Girstin K. Bergquist