

#### **Correspondence Received**

Women Voters of Los Angeles County (LWVLAC), which advocates for improved representation, governance, and accountability in our county.

			The following individu	uals submitted comments on agenda item:
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
7.		Favor	Abril Dozal	The resident physicians at county hospitals represented by SEIU/CIR strongly support this initiative
			Alicia Weintraub	
			allison schallert	
			Andrea Rothschild	Our city is too large for a mere 5 city council members. And the CEO should be elected - not chosen.
			Ann Dorsey	
			Annie Krdilyan	
			Christine Redlin	
			Cipra Nemeth	
			Debbie Decker	We are in favor of the proposed County Governance Reform Act! It's unfair to ask the 5 Supervisors to each represent 2 million people. Nor is it fair to the County's residents to expect fair representation. It's more than time the governance of the county was revised to reflect the smoother, easier, sounder, method of doing business in this day and age. This will not be a financial hardship for County but be a huge benefit to all citizens.
			Dorothy Wong	As an unincorporated area, in the high fire severity zone, we are in a vulnerable situation, hopefully this expansion of BoS can help bring attention to unincorporated areas.
			Elizabeth Beale	
			Elizabeth Herron	Im Elizabeth Herron, a Topanga resident and homeowner of Viewridge neighborhood for the past 35 years and I support the Motion set forth by Lindsey Horvath.
			Evelyn Aleman	
			Fatima Malik	Please see the attached letter in support. The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County (LWVLAC) writes to express our support for the motion titled "Increasing Effectiveness, Responsiveness, and Accountability of County Government Through Charter Reform," as submitted by Supervisors Horvath and Hahn. This motion aligns with the positions of the League of

Hector Espinoza

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



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			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
7.		Favor	helen eigenberg	please it's long overdue. we need the expansion of the BOS so they can serve constituents and ultimately the county better. we also need better transparency. we need to reduce the amount of time it takes to get things donethis is a good start. please the time is now. be brave get this on the ballot.
			Jane E Usher	Many of us have lost faith in our elected representatives. My hope is that the proposed charter reforms will be a step toward restoring that lost belief.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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



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			The following individu	als submitted comments on agenda item:
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
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				Thank you for considering my comments. I urge you to support Item 7 and take these important steps towards a more effective and accountable county government.  Jennifer Levin

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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



## **Correspondence Received**

			The following individu	als submitted comments on agenda item:
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
7.		Favor	Jerilyn Stapleton	Increasing Effectiveness, Responsiveness and Accountability of County Government Through Charter Reform 'm Jerilyn Stapleton, legislative director for the Hollywood Chapter of the National Organization for Women. Hollywood NOW enthusiastically supports Item 7. Of the reforms being proposed to the County Charter, the addition of four more Supervisors to this Board may be most important. This would provide the citizens of LA County with better representation and the greater reach would extend to populations that may have not had their voices adequately heard.  We also like the addition of an elected County Executive to oversee all County Department Heads; this streamlines the accountability of departments to a single elected official, with oversight by the full Board. Creating an Ethics Commission and Charter Review Commission would also be significant steps toward providing clarity and transparency to the Board's work.  Please pass this, so we can support this resolution for voters' consideration on county ballots this fall.
			Jerry L Gaines	Reform is needed to restore a balanced relationship between those in government and those of us living day to day at the ground level. There is too much distance in this current relationship to achieve accountability and trust between these parties. The challenge is to define clearly how and why this proposal can mitigate the challenges of the current government structure. I urge the proponents to find credible spokespersons to argue that the reorganization can be achieved within the existing budget allocated to board and executive functions.  Jerry Gaines, Former Appointed Charter Reform Commissioner - City of Los Angeles

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Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	
7.	Neiate 10	Favor	jiyoung carolyn park	I strongly support the motion to advance charter reforms to the November Ballot.  In order to ensure the public has sufficient opportunity to weigh in, the Board should hold evening meetings on this item.  A 5 member board cannot represent the diversity of 10 million people. The fact that there has never been an Asian American supervisor is a symptom of districts with 2 million residents diluting the voices of significants segments of the population.  Making the County CEO an elected position will provide a meaningful check on the Board of Supervisors. The County faces enormous challenges, but does not have a clear leader in charge of its departments or the delivery of services. This hinders our ability to address issues like homelessness or transportation with true accountability or a clear voice.  The County needs an independent ethics commission to hold county officials accountable just like any other municipality. The County Registrar has too	
				much on their plate, removing campaign finance disclosure from their responsibilities will allow them to focus on other matters. The County's current campaign finance database is severely outdated and must be modernized. so that campaign finance and lobbying data is accessible to residents.	
			Juntos Florence- Firestone N Together		
			Karen A Eyres	Long overdue and much needed reform! We want the better transparency and increased representation that this would provide.	

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



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			The following individu	als submitted comments on agenda item:
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
7.		Favor	KERRY SITU	Good morning. My name is Kerry Situ and I am with Chinatown Service Center, a nonprofit health & human services agency serving the LA County since 1971.
				Thank you Supervisors Horvath & Hahn for the motion. I support Item 7 to expand the Board of Supervisors and elect a County Executive.
				LA County is the nation's largest county with nearly 10 million residents. As our County's population grows and diversifies, we must innovate and reevaluate how we can best meet residents' changing needs to ensure we deliver the support to them as inclusively and transparently as possible.
				This is very critical for LA County residents who have historically been left out of these conversations and who deserve equal representation and can have confidence in our commitment to deliver it.
				As of the 2020 Census count, there are over 4.8 million Latinos and 1.5 million AAPI residents in LA County, these 2 groups make up over 60% of the County's total population.
				We need to make sure their diverse voices are not only given a wider platform but also better amplified so they are given the representation they deserve in the decision making to ensure we direct resources that positively impact all of the County's residents.
				Thank you.
			Kristi Lopez	
			Lionel Mares	By reforming the County Charter, we have the opportunity to create a governance model that is more effective, representative, and accountable to Angelenos. Establishing an independent ethics commission increases transparency, builds public trust, and fights corruption. This body will investigate allegations of misconduct and will serve as a gatekeeper on campaign finance, lobbying, contracts, and developers.
			Marilyn Wells	BOS will be much more effective with more members.
			Michelle Miranda	

As of: 7/10/2024 4:00:12 PM

#### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



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			The following individu	The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	
7.		Favor	Moira A Kelly	I support supervisor Horvath and Hans's motion, we need transparency, a larger board, and get things done in a quicker manner	
			PENNY SYLVESTER		
			Ruben Rodriguez	We support the expansion of the Board of Supervisors districts from 5 to 9 just be sure that the new districts are in compliance with federal law and that we have the proper number of voting rights districts drawn into the new district lines.	
			Sean E McMorris		
			Sean E McMorris		
			Shelley Rivlin	I live in the SF Valley, a huge, diverse chunk of LA County. I'm proud that my rep wants to offer greater representation. She's working hard, but it's impossible to hear administrative & constituent voices without adding more days to the week or more people to the mission. I want Lindsey & others to be more available to hear from us, & for my neighbors to have a closer connection with the County.	
			Shona Ganguly	By reforming the County Charter, we have the opportunity to create a governance model that is more effective, representative, and accountable to Angelenos.  Expanding the Board from five to nine will allow more diverse voices reflective of the makeup of Los Angeles County to shape County policy, bringing people closer to their elected Supervisors. With nine supervisors, each would represent one million constituents instead of the two million today.	
			Sonja Berndt	I am a longtime resident of Pasadena and I am a member of the LA County grassroots activist group Hang Out Do Good. I strongly support increasing the number of supervisors on the Board from 5 to 9 members through the Charter reform process. Incredibly, each Supervisor represents two million constituents. That is not effective representation. We need more voices and new and diverse perspectives to lead our County through these challenging times.  Also, please include a Charter amendment establishing an Office of County Executive to be elected by voters countywide, not appointed. This will ensure that the County Executive is accountable to the people of our County and not simply beholden to the Board of Supervisors.	
			Stacey Byrnes	The representation numbers make the importance of this measure self-evident.	

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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



## **Correspondence Received**

			The following individu	The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	
7.		Favor	Stacy Sledge-Baldino	I'm Stacy Sledge-Baldino, a 24-year resident in Lindsey Horvath's 3rd District. Over a decade ago, I was chosen to be Volunteer of the Year for this very district. I have served several decades on the Topanga Town Council and continue to serve many local organizations and committees.  Los Angeles County's governmental structure certainly needs reform since it has added over 9.5 million more constituents to its boundaries than when it was originally formed. It is time, nay, way past time, to allow the Supervisor's Board to be more responsive and more accessible to the people of LA.  By expanding the structure of the Board, it will ensure stability and effectiveness on governing over projects and programs effecting our lifestyle, environment, livelihood, safety, disasters, education, growth, and spirit. How can the five supervisors attend to all these critical needs with ten million people reaching out for help and guidance? That's a lot of hands asking for help. It's a formula that does not serve the people well.  I am in support of creating an independent ethics commission to ensure proper and accountable behavior. I support county departments presenting their budgets in public meetings and barring former elected officials and staff from lobbying the county for two years after leaving office. I endorse the county chief to be elected by voters instead of being appointed by the board.  I'd imagine any major corporation or country, for that matter, with a 46-billion-dollar budget, would want to have better control measures, necessary accountability, and the proper staff to ensure its success.  As Lindsay Horvath has said "Our residents deserve a seat at the table"—and I agree. When the table is SO big, and can't even fit in the room, it's hard for anyone to get a proper seat.	

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
7.	Favor	Favor	Tam Taylor	As a 34-year resident of Topanga and an active volunteer with the Canyon Sages, the Topanga Town Council and other organizations I have observed the complexities of working within such a large governing structure of the BOS of LA County. The reforms recommended should be brought before the public to validate the assessment for reform and the basic structures to do so. As an unincorporated unit, Topanga as a community has a long history of relying on volunteers to carry a large function of governance, and has a history of doing so successfully. But the limitations of individuals, nonprofit organizations and local businesses force us to rely on an efficient and reliable governing bodyour county supervisor. The large population within each district greatly restricts good intentions on all parties, which can be addressed by increasing the size of the Board. In addition, an elected executive will strengthen the expanded board's ability to be responsive to needs of communities, and transparency at all levels is essential for good governance and constituent confidence. I fully endorse the reforms offered by Horvath and Hahn, and hope there will be an unanimous vote of all members of the Board acting on behalf of Los Angeles County.
			Tania Ibanez Virnig	I support this Petition to explore a charter reform to increase the size of the board. The board of supervisors as presently constituted cannot be expected to adequately represent Angelenos. It makes sense to expand to board of supervisors from 5 members to 7-9 members.
			Ted Smith	Expand the Board of Supervisor from 5 - 9 and as addition to the proposal, a county citizen from the Older Adult Community.
			Teodora E Reyes	As a San Fernando Valley resident, I urge all LA County Supervisors to vote aye to this motion to reform the County's structure.
		Other	Don C Moss	Add critical wording to empower Auditor-Controller regarding individual Supervisor's actions
			Lupita Martinez	Immigrants account for 34% of the population in the County of Los Angeles. Immigrants contribute \$30.1 billion in annual taxes and have a spending power of \$79.7 billion in the local economy. The Board of Supervisors introduced a motion for charter reform, and it's crucial to include the input and recommendations of our immigrant communities. Due to our invaluable contributions and lived experiences in the County of Los Angeles, immigrants should play a pivotal role in informing the intricacies of the charter reform. For this reason, the Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA) requests that immigrant and vulnerable communities be involved in the decision-making process to ensure that any charter reform is fair and reflects the voices and experiences of immigrants.
		Item Total	44	
Grand Total			44	

#### July 7, 2024,

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 500 West Temple Street Kenneth Hanh Hall of Administration, Room 381B Los Angeles, California 90012



Re: Good Government Charter Reforms for the November 2024 Ballot

Honorable L.A. County Supervisors:

California Common Cause is pleased to see a set of good-government reforms potentially going on the November 2024 ballot. Angelenos have a right to weigh in with their vote on how their county government is held accountable. We know that public officials cannot and should not be left to police themselves on matters of ethics and accountability related to their positions of power. The people they represent must have a say. Therefore, California Common Cause supports this process and, in principle, the reforms presented in the Horvath/Solis motion. However, we hope that a robust public feedback process will occur to refine what is proposed within the limited time left before 2024 ballot placement deadlines.

We commend the Board of Supervisors for taking this bold step to implement overdue democracy reforms. We support the motion to move this process forward in time for the 2024 ballot. However, we reserve final judgment on the quality of the reforms until we have had time to analyze them and have any concerns we may have about their efficacy (or lack thereof) addressed.

We thank the Board of Supervisors for there time and consideration on these important reforms.

Sincerely,
Sean McMorris
Transparency, Ethics & Accountability Program Manager
California Common Cause
smcmorris@commoncause.org

July 7, 2024,

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 500 West Temple Street Kenneth Hanh Hall of Administration, Room 381B Los Angeles, California 90012



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Sincerely,
Sean McMorris
Transparency, Ethics & Accountability Program Manager
California Common Cause
smcmorris@commoncause.org



July 8, 2024

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 500 W. Temple St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Agenda Item 7 – July 9, 2024

Dear Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County (LWVLAC) writes to express our support for the motion titled "Increasing Effectiveness, Responsiveness, and Accountability of County Government Through Charter Reform," as submitted by Supervisors Horvath and Hahn. This motion aligns with the positions of the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County (LWVLAC), which advocates for improved representation, governance, and accountability in our county.

#### **Support for Expansion of the Board of Supervisors**

The LWVLAC supports expanding the Board of Supervisors for the following reasons:

- 1. **Improved Representation**: Increasing the number of supervisors will better represent the diverse communities within Los Angeles County, ensuring all voices are heard and adequately represented.
- 2. **Enhanced Governance**: A larger board will facilitate more focused and localized governance, allowing supervisors to address the specific needs of their districts more effectively.
- 3. **Increased Accountability**: More supervisors will allow for better access to elected representatives, promoting greater accountability and responsiveness to local issues.

#### **Opposition to an Elected County Executive**

While the LWVLAC supports the idea of a County Executive, it does not support the election of this position. Instead, the League advocates for an appointed Chief Executive,

as the County currently has, to ensure professional management free from political pressures, maintaining administrative efficiency and effective governance.

#### **Support for an Ethics Commission**

The League supports the establishment of an independent Ethics Commission, as it aligns with our positions on money in politics and government transparency. The Ethics Commission would:

- 1. **Combat Corruption and Undue Influence**: Ensuring that the methods of financing political campaigns and governmental operations are transparent and free from corruption aligns with the LWV's stance on money in politics.
- 2. **Promote Transparency and Accountability**: Protecting the citizen's right to know and facilitating citizen participation in government decision-making aligns with the LWV's stance on government transparency.

#### **Concerns and Recommendations**

- Fiscal Responsibility: It is crucial that the expansion does not lead to excessive operational costs. Measures should be in place to ensure that the new structure remains cost-effective and does not burden taxpayers.
- 2. Implementation of Ethics Commission and an Office of Ethics Compliance: Establishing an independent Ethics Commission to investigate misconduct and enforce laws related to governmental ethics is essential to maintain public trust and transparency. The Compliance Officer will assist with the implementation of the Ethics Commission's initiatives and enforcement actions and provide administrative and operational support to the Ethics Commission. This aligns with the League's campaign finance position that supports transparency, combating corruption, and enabling equitable competition.

#### **Support for Legislative Analyst**

The League's emphasis on government transparency and accountability supports the creation of a legislative analyst position. A legislative analyst provides nonpartisan legislative support and analysis, ensuring that government decisions are transparent, well-informed, and based on thorough analysis.

#### Summary

LWVLAC supports expanding the Board of Supervisors to enhance representation and governance. The LWVLAC believes that increasing the number of supervisors will better reflect the county's diverse populations and ensure more localized and effective governance. Additionally, the League supports the appointment of a professional, rather than an elected, County Executive to maintain administrative efficiency and professional management without political pressure.

In conclusion, the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County (LWVLAC) urges the Board of Supervisors to consider the benefits of expanding the board, appointing a County Executive, establishing an independent Ethics Commission, and creating a legislative analyst position, while also addressing potential financial implications responsibly. These changes will enhance representation, governance, and accountability in Los Angeles County

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have additional questions, please contact LWVLAC President, Margo Reeg, at 303-253-4275 or margolwv@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Margo A. Reeg, President

Margo a. Reeg

League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County

CAPITOL OFFICE 1021 O STREET SUITE 6720 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 TEL (916) 651-4020

DISTRICT OFFICE 6150 VAN NUYS BLVD., SUITE 400 VAN NUYS, CA 91401 TEL (818) 901-5588

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BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #3
ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
CHAIR

July 7, 2024

Board of Supervisors Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support Letter – Item 7

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in strong support of Item 7 on the July 9 Board meeting — "Increasing Effectiveness, Responsiveness and Accountability of County Government Through Charter Reform" proposed by Board Chair Lindsey P. Horvath and Supervisor Janice Hahn.

Amending Los Angeles County's Charter for the first time in 100 years presents an important opportunity to create a more representative, accountable, transparent, and effective Los Angeles County government. In order to deliver results for our communities, a body of five elected leaders representing two million people who serve both as the executive and legislative branches of the government no longer seems to be the right path forward.

It's time to create a government structure with the checks and balances necessary to meaningfully address homelessness, justice reform, disaster response, and all the challenges our communities face. Expanding the Board from five to nine, and establishing long overdue ethics reforms are what Los Angeles County desperately needs.

As a State Senator and a resident of this County, I have experienced firsthand how issues of backlogs can impact constituents. Diversifying and expanding the Board with an elected County Executive and common-sense ethics reforms is the foundational structure that will allow the County to more effectively and transparently deliver the services and support our communities.

This idea is not new as it has been proposed for decades. I hope you will see this as the opportunity it is: the all-women Board of Supervisors willing to transform the County because it is the right thing to do – both for today and for tomorrow.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Kristi Lopez, my District Director, at (818) 901-5588.

Sincerely,

CAROLINE MENJIVAR, MSW, Senator

20th District



July 8, 2024

Honorable Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the dedicated resident physicians serving Los Angeles County, SEIU/CIR writes in strong support of the proposed Governance Reform initiative by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath and Supervisor Janice Hahn. This reform represents a crucial step towards enhancing the accountability, representation, and efficiency of County governance, which directly impacts our ability to deliver high-quality healthcare services to the community.

We believe that a more representative governance model will ensure that the diverse needs and perspectives of our County's population are adequately addressed. This inclusivity is critical in shaping policies that not only reflect but also serve the best interests of all residents, particularly those in underserved communities who rely heavily on County healthcare services.

In conclusion, we urge all stakeholders to support the Governance Reform initiative as a means to foster a more accountable, responsive, and effective County governance structure. Together, we can create an environment that empowers healthcare professionals to deliver the highest standard of care to the people of Los Angeles County.

Sincerely,

Mahima Iyengar SEIU/CIR Secretary-Treasurer

Frances Gill SEIU/CIR Regional Vice President

Andrea Soto-Lopez SEIU/CIR Regional Vice President



ALICIA WEINTRAUB Mayor

July 8, 2024

As the Mayor of the City of Calabasas, I am proud to support the Board of Supervisors Motion regarding government reform. We greatly value our relationship with the County, and I believe the proposed motion will make the County government more representative, accountable, and transparent. Increasing the number of supervisors from 5 to 9 will provide more opportunities for residents to engage directly with their county representatives.

A key component of this reform is enhancing government transparency, which our constituents wholeheartedly applaud. Our cities look forward to participating in this process and witnessing the positive impact this reform will have on local governance.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alicia Weintraub

Mayor

City of Calabasas



ALICIA WEINTRAUB Mayor

July 8, 2024

As the Mayor of the City of Calabasas, I am proud to support the Board of Supervisors Motion regarding government reform. We greatly value our relationship with the County, and I believe the proposed motion will make the County government more representative, accountable, and transparent. Increasing the number of supervisors from 5 to 9 will provide more opportunities for residents to engage directly with their county representatives.

A key component of this reform is enhancing government transparency, which our constituents wholeheartedly applaud. Our cities look forward to participating in this process and witnessing the positive impact this reform will have on local governance.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alicia Weintraub

Mayor

City of Calabasas

Don C. Moss Independent County Advocate P.O. Box 90094

City of Industry, CA 91715-0094

July 9, 2024

Re: Agenda Item #7, Increasing Effectiveness, Responsiveness and Accountability of County Government.

Honorable Chair of the Board Horvath Honorable 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor Hahn

The above noted agenda item lacks the very critical addition of necessary Charter wording which will provide the Department of Auditor-Controller with the clearly written ability to rein in malfeasance on the part of an elected Supervisor. Please work with your legal team to add this important amendment to your motion.

Thank you for your work on behalf of the residents of Los Angeles County.

Don C. Moss 626-715-1147 d.moss@roadrunner.com

# Increasing Effectiveness, Responsiveness and Accountability of County Government Through Charter Reform

I'm Jerilyn Stapleton, legislative director for the Hollywood Chapter of the National Organization for Women. Hollywood NOW enthusiastically supports Item 7. Of the reforms being proposed to the County Charter, the addition of four more Supervisors to this Board may be most important. This would provide the citizens of LA County with better representation and the greater reach would extend to populations that may have not had their voices adequately heard.

We also like the addition of an elected County Executive to oversee all County Department Heads; this streamlines the accountability of departments to a single elected official, with oversight by the full Board. Creating an Ethics Commission and Charter Review Commission would also be significant steps toward providing clarity and transparency to the Board's work.

Please pass this, so we can support this resolution for voters' consideration on county ballots this fall.