



**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
12.		Favor	Guadalupe Gracian	
			Hector Ramirez	<p>To the esteemed Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>My name is Hector Ramirez, and I am a person with disabilities who lives in Los Angeles County and on behalf of myself and other people with disabilities I am deeply committed to the safety and well-being of all members of our community. I am writing today to express my unwavering support for the establishing an Independent Ethics Commission, and hope that membership of this commission includes a disabled individual(s) that address the unique experiences of individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>The representation of people with disabilities and disability rights issues in ethics committees is vital:</p> <p>Lived Experience and Expertise:</p> <p>Unique Perspectives: Individuals with disabilities possess a unique understanding of the social, environmental, and attitudinal barriers they encounter. They can identify potential discriminatory practices or biases that might be overlooked by others.</p> <p>Impact Assessment: Their lived experience enables them to accurately assess the potential positive and negative impacts of decisions on people with disabilities, ensuring that all consequences are thoroughly considered.</p> <p>Avoiding Unintentional Discrimination:</p> <p>Unconscious Bias: Even well-intentioned individuals can harbor unconscious biases. The presence of people with disabilities helps challenge these biases and ensures that decisions are made based on objective evidence and ethical principles, not stereotypes or assumptions.</p> <p>Promoting Equity: Inclusion fosters a culture of equity within the committee, ensuring that the diverse needs and perspectives of people with disabilities are acknowledged and valued.</p> <p>Identifying Potential Harms:</p> <p>Risk Mitigation: People with disabilities can foresee potential unintended consequences or harms that may arise from policies or research. Their insights can be crucial in adjusting approaches to minimize risks and protect the well-being of individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Early Intervention: Their input allows for early identification and intervention in</p>



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situations where ethical concerns might emerge, preventing harm before it occurs.

Promoting Accessibility and Inclusion:

Universal Design: Representatives from the disability community advocate for universal design principles, ensuring that policies, research, and services are designed to be accessible and usable by people with diverse abilities.

Inclusive Practices: They promote the adoption of inclusive practices within the committee itself, ensuring that meetings and materials are accessible to all members.

Building Trust and Legitimacy:

Community Engagement: The presence of people with disabilities signals a commitment to engage with the disability community and incorporate their perspectives into ethical decision-making. This fosters trust and strengthens the committee's relationship with the community it serves.

Representation Matters: Seeing themselves represented in decision-making bodies empowers people with disabilities and reinforces their sense of belonging within society.

Upholding Human Rights:

Rights-Based Approach: Representation ensures that decisions align with international human rights frameworks, such as the CRPD, which recognizes the inherent dignity and autonomy of people with disabilities.

Challenging Discrimination: Members of the disability community can advocate against discriminatory practices and promote ethical standards that protect the rights of all individuals, regardless of their abilities.

By expanding on these reasons, we gain a deeper appreciation for the indispensable role that people with disabilities and disability rights advocates play in ethics committees. Their involvement is not merely a matter of inclusivity, but a fundamental necessity for ensuring ethical decision-making that respects the rights, well-being, and dignity of all members of society.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Hector Manuel Ramirez

Imelda Rodriguez	
Isis Hernandez	
Janine Roach	

		jessica gracian	
		Joselias Gracian	
		Lionel Mares	<p>I support the creation of an Independent Ethics Commission. I strongly believe that Ethics is essential to Democracy and building trust with our elected officials. I support the creation of an independent that is truly independent and unbiased.</p> <p>I want an Independent Ethics Commission that has the power and authority to enforce rules and the rule of law. That is actually and truly independent from any undue influence.</p> <p>I urge that the Board of Supervisors to consider setting up a special meeting to allow members of the public to attend and give public testimony preferably in the afternoon after work hours.</p> <p>We need to hear the public before proceeding forward. The County needs an independent ethics commission to hold county officials accountable. Corruption scandals have undermined faith in government.</p> <p>The County Registrar has too much on their plate, removing campaign finance disclosure from their responsibilities will allow them to focus on other matters.</p> <p>The County's current campaign finance database is severely outdated.</p> <p>Voters deserve to be able to quickly search and comprehensively view campaign finance and lobbying data.</p>
		Pavel G Rivera	
	<b>Oppose</b>	Jerry Gaines	The issues addressed in this motion are included in agenda item 80. There such changes approved by voters in Charter Reform can only be revised by the voters. Ordinances can be changed by the Board of Supervisors.
		Rob Quan	This motion is fatally flawed. You cannot create an "independent" ethics commission via ordinance. Any commission created through ordinance could have it's powers gutted, and the commissioners and staff would be forced to continually operate with the fear that truly independent enforcement could result in their elimination. The basic powers and structure of an ethics commission must be placed in the charter with voter approval.
	<b>Item Total</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>11</b>	