

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

AGN. NO.
June 3, 2025

La Salud es Importante: Proclaiming June 2025 as Immigrant Heritage Month by Keeping Los Angeles County's Immigrants Healthy and Safe

June is observed as Immigrant Heritage Month when we recognize and celebrate the numerous accomplishments and contributions that millions of immigrants bring to our country. In Los Angeles County (County), there are more than 3.4 million immigrants who live and work here, representing about one third of the County's total population. They contribute to nearly all aspects of County life, including being 42 percent of the employed workforce, owning 44 percent of all small business, and contributing over \$38 billion in state, local, and federal taxes. And they have established deep community roots, with about 80 percent having lived in the County 10 years or longer.

Despite their immense contributions, immigrants continue to be attacked, ostracized, scapegoated, and, under the current federal administration, often deported without due process. Due to fear for their safety and out of caution, many immigrants are avoiding government and non-government health care and other support benefits they need and rightfully can receive. Anecdotally, community health providers are concerned that immigrants, particularly undocumented individuals, are disenrolling from certain government health programs, not seeking primary care, keeping their children away from getting health care, or not treating preventable symptoms until the situation is dire.

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____

The County Department of Health Services (DHS), in support to the County Board of Supervisors' (Board) directed Immigration Priority, has placed this information on their website to assure immigrants of DHS's commitment to support them during this time of immense fear: "LA Health Services provides health care to everyone regardless of immigration status..."¹ Similarly, earlier this year, the County Department of Public Health (DPH) issued a statement assuring that, "Public health services remain accessible to everyone, ensuring equitable care and support for vulnerable communities."²

Though the current federal administration rescinded the federal "Sensitive Locations" policy on January 21, 2025, the Board adopted a County Sensitive Locations Policy in 2017 that still applies to County health departments. This reflects the Board's continued commitment to maintaining trust with our immigrant residents, regardless of their immigration status, when seeking County resources, services, and care by enforcing privacy and confidentiality protocols.

The recent policies, executive orders, and actions taken by the current federal administration have had a devastatingly chilling effect on immigrant residents, particularly undocumented individuals, resulting in their further isolation, withdrawal, and fear. Similarly, the State is also considering "no longer accept[ing] new enrollees 19 and older who lack permanent legal status."³

However, the County values the diversity of all our residents, as well as their contributions to making the County a better home for us all, and we must do what we can to push back against bigotry, exclusion, and hate.

¹ <https://dhs.lacounty.gov/our-services/resources/our-services-immigration/>

² <https://lacounty.gov/2025/01/17/los-angeles-county-department-of-public-health-reaffirms-commitment-to-providing-support-to-all-residents-regardless-of-immigration-status/#:~:text=Los%20Angeles%20County%20Department%20of,Status%20%E2%80%93%20COUNTY%20OF%20LOS%20ANGELES>

³ <https://calmatters.org/health/2025/05/newsom-freeze-medi-cal-undocumented-immigrants/>

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim June 2025 as Immigrant Heritage Month;
2. Direct the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) in the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, in collaboration with the Departments of Public Health (DPH), Health Services (DHS), and Mental Health (DMH) to work with community health providers and associations in providing them with training, resources, referrals, and technical assistance to better serve their immigrant clients; and
3. Direct OIA, in collaboration with DHS, DPH, DMH, and the Office of the County Counsel, to:
 - a. Review and ensure that their policies, protocols, and practices prioritize patients' privacy and confidentiality, regardless of the patients' immigration status; and
 - b. Establish a referral process for County Health Departments to OIA for immigrant patients to receive needed government and community resources and support services.

I, FURTHER, MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors

1. Direct the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) in the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, in collaboration with the Departments of Public Health (DPH), Health Services (DHS), Mental Health (DMH), Chief Executive Office, CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Branch (CEO-LAIR), in consultation with County Counsel, to provide to the Board with a report back, in writing, in 30 days, on what the impact the State's proposal of no longer accepting new enrollees 19 and older who lack permanent legal status will have on the County.

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