AGN. NO.

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

July 8, 2025

AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Resolution in Support of Immigrants' Dignity, Respect, and Access to Health Care Free from Harassment

California is home to 10.6 million immigrants making up nearly27% of the state's population. Nearly half (45%) of California children have at least one immigrant parent. California's immigrant population comes from all over the world, leading with Latin America and Asia, but also including Europe, Africa, North America, and Oceania, adding to the richness and diversity of our communities. In Los Angeles County, approximately one-third of the population, or 3.3 million people, are immigrants, and about half of the immigrant population are not naturalized citizens, representing nearly 15% of the total county population.

The federal government recently rescinded previous policy guidance that prohibited immigration enforcement in "sensitive areas" such as hospitals, schools, and churches. This means that hospitals and clinics in California could be the target of immigration enforcement, and there have already been horrifying cases of such enforcement in the country, such as 10-year-old girl with brain cancer being detained and deported while on her way to the hospital for emergency medical treatment in Houston, TX. This has led to a chilling effect on immigrants seeking medical care, the

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impact of which extends beyond the health of the individual to that of society as a whole.

Existing state law already provides protections to immigrants seeking medical care. These protections include: 1) The prohibition of an employer providing voluntary consent to immigration enforcement agents to enter nonpublic areas of a place of labor without a judicial warrant (Gov. Code § 7285.1); 2) The Attorney General's model policies that limit assistance to immigration enforcement which are required to be implemented at health facilities operated by the state or a political subdivision thereof, and encouraged to be implemented at all entities providing services related to physical or mental health and wellness (Gov. Code § 7284.8); 3) The Confidential Medical Information Act which protects an individual's medical information from unauthorized disclosure; 4) Prohibiting an employer from voluntarily providing employee records to an immigration enforcement agent without a subpoena or judicial warrant, except for I-9 forms or other documents for which a Notice of Inspection is required (Gov. Code § 7285.2).

Immigrants are essential to our communities and economy. They help to power industries like agriculture, construction, food services, health care, and more. Recent policy changes have created fear, leading many individuals to skip work, the doctor, or even school. Immigrants deserve dignity, respect, and due process of law. They have a

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right to seek health care, and should not be subjected to fear and anxiety when trying to take care of themselves and their loved ones in need of medical attention.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors suspend Section 22.1

of the Rules of the Board for the limited purpose of considering this motion.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached resolution affirming its commitment to empowering those both seeking care and/or working in healthcare facilities, and calling on hospitals, health clinics, and other health providers to stand for the dignity and respect of all communities they serve; the right of all to seek medical care without fear of harassment, arrest, or other harmful actions; and the honoring of the ethical guidelines of the medical profession to avoid harm and provide care to all who need it:

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Resolution of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in Support of Immigrants' Dignity, Respect, and Access to Health Care Free from Harassment

WHEREAS: Immigrants – including naturalized citizens, those with lawful immigration status, and noncitizens_– are an integral part of the fabric of California's society and, as all human beings, deserve dignity, respect, and due process of law; and

WHEREAS: Immigrants have a right to seek health care, and should not be subjected to fear and anxiety when trying to take care of themselves and their loved ones in need of medical attention; and

WHEREAS: California is home to 10.6 million immigrants, 27% of the state's population and 22% of the immigrant population nationwide. Nearly half (45%) of California children have at least one immigrant parent. Immigrants make up a third (34%) of California's prime-working-age adults, those aged 25 to 54; and

WHEREAS: California's immigrant population comes from all over the world, leading with Latin America and Asia, but also including Europe, Africa, North America, and Oceania, adding to the richness and diversity of our communities. The leading countries of origin are Mexico, Philippines, China, India, and Vietnam; and

WHEREAS: California's economy, the fourth largest in the world, would not rank where it does without the vital contributions of immigrants, including naturalized citizens, who make up 33% of all California workers. In particular, immigrants play a critical role in safeguarding the health and wellness of Californians, making up 35% of our health care workers, 32% of our doctors, and 37% of our registered nurses. In turn, they should feel safe when seeking their own care; and

WHEREAS: The federal government recently rescinded previous policy guidance that prohibited immigration enforcement in "sensitive areas" such as hospitals, schools, and churches. This means that hospitals and clinics in California could be the target of immigration enforcement, and there have already been horrifying cases of such enforcement in the country, such as 10-year-old girl with brain cancer being detained and deported while on her way to the hospital for emergency medical treatment in Houston, TX. This has led to a chilling effect on immigrants seeking medical care, the impact of which extends beyond the health of the individual to that of society as a whole; and

WHEREAS: Existing state law already provides protections to immigrants seeking medical care. These protections include: 1) The prohibition of an employer providing voluntary consent to immigration enforcement agents to enter nonpublic areas of a place of labor without a judicial warrant (Gov. Code § 7285.1); 2) The Attorney General's model policies that limit assistance to immigration enforcement which are required to be implemented at health facilities operated by the state or a political subdivision thereof (or and equivalent policy), and encouraged to be implemented at all entities providing services related to physical or mental health and wellness (Gov. Code § 7284.8); 3) The Confidential Medical Information Act which protects an individual's medical information from unauthorized disclosure; 4) Prohibiting an employer from voluntarily providing employee records to an immigration enforcement agent without a subpoena or judicial warrant, except for I-9 forms or other documents for which a Notice of Inspection is required (Gov. Code § 7285.2).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby calls on the hospitals, health clinics, and other health providers in the County stand for: the dignity and respect of all communities they serve; the right of all to seek medical care without fear of harassment, arrest, or other harmful actions; and the honoring of the ethical guidelines of the medical profession to avoid harm and provide care to all who need it.

The foregoing Resolution was on the <u>day of July 2025</u>, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and *ex officio* the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

EDWARD YEN, Executive Officer Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

Ву_____

Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON

County Counsel

By__

Deputy County Counsel