

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

July 15, 2025

AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Preserving Access to Critical Federal Safety Net Programs for All Residents

According to the American Immigration Council, undocumented immigrants paid \$55.8 billion in federal taxes in 2023.¹ Despite that, undocumented immigrants are prevented from accessing the vast majority of federal benefits. Unfortunately, on Thursday, July 10, 2025,² the Trump Administration continued its unconscionable attack on this vulnerable community by restricting access even further by issuing a notice³ rescinding a 1998 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) interpretation of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) related to who qualifies for federal public benefits. Despite HHS soliciting public comment to the notice, President Trump and Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. announced immediate effect of the change and have begun restricting undocumented immigrants' access to programs like Head Start, community health centers, mental health and substance disorder treatment programs and block grants, Title X family

¹ American Immigration Council, "[Do undocumented immigrants pay taxes?](#)"
² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "[HHS Bans Illegal Aliens from Accessing its Taxpayer-Funded Programs](#)," [posted](#) July 10, 2025.
³ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, Notice: "[Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 \(PRWORA\); Interpretation of 'Federal Public Benefit.'](#)"

MOTION

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Mitchell	_____
Horvath	_____
Hahn	_____
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programs, and others including Community Services Block Grant programming, low-income energy programs, homelessness programs, behavioral health clinics, and health workforce programs. And the list of programs is likely to expand.

These programs provide essential health, education, and wellness benefits for the country's, and the County's, most vulnerable residents. Head Start provides childcare, nutrition, and health assistance to 800,000 low-income infants, toddlers, and pre-school children across the country, and has never required documentation of immigration status over the last 60 years of the program. Meanwhile, federally funded health centers, also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are designed to deliver care and services in underserved areas and play a pivotal role in the County and the nation's safety net. Barring access to these clinics will result in undocumented residents forgoing essential primary and preventive care and result in expensive and overcrowded hospital emergency departments becoming the primary means of healthcare delivery for some of the most medically fragile residents. Additionally, the Title X program, which is already under attack by the Trump Administration for its role in providing reproductive health care, continues to offer essential family planning and preventive health services to individuals with low incomes lacking health insurance, including counseling, testing, cancer screenings, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The impacts of these actions are far reaching and devastating. These programs

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by nature are designed to target the country's most vulnerable residents. By barring access to these programs to undocumented residents – which have been relied upon by immigrant communities for over two decades – the Trump Administration is removing essential health and wellness benefits from those who need them most. It is imperative that the County take any and all immediate action to oppose this unconscionable decision.

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:

1. Direct County Counsel, in consultation with the Office of Immigrant Affairs in the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, to file official public comment in opposition to the proposed rule change and to file and/or join an amicus brief in any ongoing or imminent litigation opposing the rescission of federal public benefits, including access to Head Start, federally funded health centers, mental health and substance use disorder treatment programs and block grants, and Title X family planning programs, among other programs, for noncitizens.
2. Direct the Chief Executive Office, in collaboration with all relevant Departments including but not limited to County Counsel, CEO- Legislative

AGN. NO. _____

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Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, Department of Health Services, Department of Public Social Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Health, LA County Office of Education, CEO-Homelessness Initiative, the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs - Office of Immigrant Affairs, Department of Homeless Services and Housing, Department of Children and Family Services, and the Department of Economic Opportunity, to report back in writing in 15 days on expected impacts as a result of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) interpretation of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) on access to resources, services and programs for the County's immigrant community.

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