

Protecting the Privacy of Transgender Los Angeles County Residents

On December 18, 2025, the Trump Administration announced two proposed rules from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, along with a declaration from Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Secretary of US Department of Health and Human Services, aimed at restricting reimbursement for, and access to gender-affirming care for transgender youth. In addition, the Trump administration has issued numerous executive orders, and multiple states have introduced legislation restricting the rights of Transgender, Gender-expansive and Intersex (TGI) people.

On October 11, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 497, authored by State Senator Scott Wiener, into law. Codified as California Civil Code Section 56.109, the bill strengthens protections for individuals seeking gender-affirming care. SB 497 establishes safeguards against the enforcement of other states' laws that attempt to penalize individuals for obtaining gender-affirming care that is legal in California. It protects transgender individuals' medical data from being shared with other states or federal law enforcement without a judicial warrant. It also prohibits access to prescription history without a warrant, subpoena, or court order and imposes penalties for warrantless intrusions. SB 497 was adopted as an urgency statute and took effect immediately.

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MOTION

MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
SOLIS	_____

TGI people continue to face disproportionate levels of harassment, intimidation, and harm. Los Angeles County remains committed to taking all the steps necessary to protect them, their family members, and the communities that support them.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Direct the Directors of the Departments of Health Services, Mental Health Services, Public Health, Public Social Services, and Human Resources, in consultation with County Counsel, to:
 - a. Report back to the Board in writing in 30 days on their plans to implement Senate Bill (SB) 497 (Weiner), including safeguards to ensure compliance with the law and to prevent unauthorized disclosure of protected health information.
 - b. Develop and implement staff training protocols for all relevant existing and new employees on SB 497's requirements, including privacy protections, prohibitions on data sharing, and mandatory procedures for addressing suspected violations, and report back to the Board in writing in 90 days on progress toward training and implementation of these protocols.

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(YV/VG)