

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

MAY 12, 2026

**Protecting the Safety and Well-Being of County Residents in Medical Facilities**

**Amid Increased Immigration Enforcement**

The federal government’s increased immigration enforcement has augmented interactions between civil law enforcement officials and patients, visitors, and personnel in medical facilities, including Department of Health Services (DHS) hospitals. These interactions have raised significant concerns around patient privacy and safety. Meanwhile, medical staff provide care while contending with potential claims of obstruction of justice. This exponentially raises the need for additional safeguards to protect staff, patients, and visitors.

The County has taken significant steps to protect County residents, including through the development of a Sensitive Locations Policy to prevent the use of County resources for civil law enforcement, including immigration enforcement and to restrict access to non-public areas of County property by civil law enforcement officials without a judicial warrant. The Board also implemented an ICE-Free Zones ordinance to prohibit County-owned and County-controlled property from being used for unauthorized civil law enforcement activities. Additionally, DHS recently adopted the Interactions with Civil Law Enforcement Agencies and Protocol for Patients in Civil Detention Policy, in

**MOTION**

Mitchell \_\_\_\_\_

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alignment with Senate Bill 81 (Arreguín), to provide guidance to County hospital staff when interacting with civil law enforcement agencies, such as immigration enforcement.

With the rollout of the County's Sensitive Locations Policy, County Counsel, in partnership with the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) in the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, conducted training across all County departments to ensure that staff were well-equipped to comply with the policy, and understood their rights, while safely engaging with civil law enforcement officers.

With the recent development of the DHS Civil Law Enforcement Agencies and Protocol for Patients in Civil Detention Policy (Policy), it is important to ensure adequate training across DHS facilities begins immediately. Additionally, it will be important to continue to take in feedback from DHS staff, including those interacting with civil law enforcement directly, to ensure the Policy continues to be updated as needed, with the intent of continuing to protect the safety of patients, visitors, and staff. Given community and County staff concerns around a lack of awareness of this Policy, an internal committee with experience interacting with civil law enforcement officers is critical to help guide the implementation of this Policy.

Interactions between immigration enforcement and County residents in medical facilities have become more prevalent, including in non-County hospitals and facilities. To further protect the safety and well-being of County residents, it is also important to continue to collaborate with non-County hospitals and medical facilities to gather

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lessons learned and identify additional opportunities for enhancing existing policies.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Health Services (DHS) and County Counsel, in collaboration with the Office of Immigration Affairs (OIA), to establish an internal committee (Committee) to oversee the implementation of DHS' Interactions with Civil Law Enforcement Agencies and Protocol for Patients in Civil Detention Policy (Policy), including the immediate training of DHS employees on the Policy. This committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following considerations:

1. The Committee shall be comprised of hospital personnel with experience in interacting with civil law enforcement, designated management representatives, hospital leadership, and other relevant County personnel, as well as County Counsel and OIA.
2. The Committee shall work with County Counsel and OIA to identify best practices for training staff who interact with patients in civil detention, based on lessons learned from their training and implementation of the Sensitive Locations Policy.
3. The Committee, in partnership with County Counsel and OIA shall develop a training plan for DHS staff on implementation of the DHS Policy that incorporates content about related policies including the Sensitive Locations Policy and legal defense provided to County workers charged with federal criminal offenses per the conditions set forth in the Board's declaration on Empowering County

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Workers to Serve All Immigrants Without Interference.

4. The Committee shall collect feedback from DHS staff who interact with patients in civil detention and other community stakeholders to develop mechanisms to continue to update and improve the DHS Policy as needed, with the intent of protecting the safety of patients, visitors, and staff.
5. Report back in writing in 30 days on the above, including but not limited to, training conducted, feedback received, and how feedback was integrated into the policy, with quarterly reports thereafter.

I, **FURTHER, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Health Services, in partnership with County Counsel and OIA, to report back in writing in 30 days with plans to partner with health plans, the Hospital Association of Southern California, the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County, and hospitals, community clinics, and providers throughout the County, to continue to gather and share lessons learned on protecting staff, patients, and visitors, when interacting with civil law enforcement, including immigration enforcement.

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