AGN. NO._____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND HOLLY MITCHELL

September 15, 2026

Implementing Assembly Bill 1646 - The Hug Act - In Los Angeles County

On March 3, 2026, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) unanimously passed a motion directing the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations branch to advocate in support of Assembly Bill 1646 (Bryan) also known as The Hug Act. The bill originated with young people incarcerated at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall, who asked for something simple: to be able to hug their families hello and goodbye during visitation. Assemblymember Isaac Bryan developed the legislation with those youth. Assembly Bill 1646 (AB 1646) would ensure that incarcerated youth across California are allowed to embrace their family members during visitation by making appropriate physical contact during in-person visits a legal right. The Board motion also directed the Chief Probation Officer to provide a verbal report at the March 3, 2026 Board Meeting on the status of offering contact visits for youth at all of the County's Probation facilities. The Probation department reported that they were already working to revise the departmental visitation policy to allow for contact visits with prior approval from the Chief Probation Officer and permitted on designated, pre-scheduled days. However, youth at all facilities in Los Angeles County still do not have access to regular contact visits.

	MOTION
MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
SOLIS	_____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND HOLLY J. MITCHELL

September 15, 2026

Implementing Assembly Bill 1646 - The Hug Act - In Los Angeles County

The Hug Act is moving through the legislature with bipartisan support. If it is signed into law, it will take effect beginning January 1, 2027. While Probation has implemented hugs during some pre-scheduled visitation days, this bill will make it a right for the youth to be able to have appropriate contact during all visits. The Los Angeles County Probation Department has acknowledged that contact visits are a beneficial and meaningful way to support youth. The Department has made real efforts to implement physical contact during visits, and families have provided positive feedback on the value of these visits:

- *"The best thing about the Mother's Day visit was hugging my son, praying with him, and giving him mama kisses."*
- *"Keep doing it. It helps the kids feel more love."*
- *"It was nice to hug."*

With implementation of AB1646 beginning on January 1, 2027, the Department must create a plan to progressively implement the bill so that they are in compliance with State law by the new year.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Probation Officer to do the following:

1. Revise the departmental visitation policy to eliminate the requirement that contact visits receive prior approval from the Chief Probation Officer, so that the new policy is ready and implemented by January 1, 2027;
2. Create written materials that inform parents and youth of their right to physical contact and that state that contact will not be restricted as a disciplinary consequence, and

share these materials online, post them in facilities, and disseminate them to parents and youth by January 1, 2027;

3. Progressively ramp up in-person contact visits at all Los Angeles County juvenile facilities throughout the remainder of this calendar year;
4. Report back in writing in 60 days on the plan to comply with Assembly Bill 1646 (AB 1646) by January 1, 2027, so that youth at all facilities have access to appropriate contact during visitation. The plan should include protocols and procedures for youth who do not want to engage in a contact visit at any point during the visit with assurance that declining will not affect future visits, confirmation that contact will not be restricted as a disciplinary consequence, the standard and documentation process for any temporary restriction based on a specific and significant safety and security concern, and processes to set clear and consistent expectations across all facilities; and
5. In consultation with the Probation Oversight Commission, provide two six-month written reports to Board of Supervisors, the first by July 1, 2027, and the second by January 1, 2028, on the status of contact visits and the impact of AB1646 in Probation facilities. Each report shall include, at a minimum, visitation participation by facility, feedback from youth and families, and the number of instances in which contact was restricted, as well as the basis for the restriction.

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JH:ccr:ap