PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Correspondence Received

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	**Relate To**	**Position**	**Name**	**Comments**
10.		**Favor**	Justina Bolden	
			Paloma Bustos	
		Item Total	**2**	
Grand Total			**2**	

As of: 10/18/2026 9:00:04 AM

Loyola Law School
Loyola Marymount University
Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative

October 16, 2026

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Reference: Establishing a Framework for Less Restrictive Programs (26-6473)

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative supports the County's efforts to review and strengthen Less Restrictive Programs (LRP), particularly the recommendation to examine the assessment tool and criteria used to determine youth placement.

As part of this review, we recommend examining whether existing assessments include questions to identify youth who may have experienced human trafficking, including labor trafficking by forced criminality. Some youth may have been arrested or convicted for crimes they were forced to commit as part of their trafficking experience, without ever being identified as trafficking survivors.

We recommend incorporating trafficking screening into the assessment process and requiring staff who conduct these assessments to receive training on recognizing potential signs of trafficking, responding appropriately, and connecting youth with community-based services. This would help ensure that trafficking experiences are considered when making placement decisions and identifying appropriate services.

We also recommend stronger coordination among Probation, the Department of Youth Development, the Public Defender, and other agencies identified in the motion. This should include establishing clear procedures for identifying potential trafficking survivors, sharing appropriate referral information, and connecting youth with community-based organizations that provide trafficking-specific services.

Strengthening screening, staff training, and coordination across agencies would help prevent trafficking survivors from being overlooked and ensure their experiences and needs are considered in placement decisions.

Sincerely,

Paloma Bustos

Paloma Bustos, MSW
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Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative
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