



Chief Executive Office.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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Joseph M. Nicchitta

December 1, 2025

To: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
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From: Joseph M. Nicchitta 
Joseph M. Nicchitta (Nov 30, 2025 13:05:35 PST)
Acting Chief Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE – SUMMARY OF 2025 COUNTY ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Executive Summary

On October 12, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom completed action on legislative measures for the first year of the 2025-26 Legislative Session. This legislative year, in consultation with the Board of Supervisors (Board) and in collaboration with County departments, the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (CEO-LAIR) Branch advocated in sponsorship, co-sponsorship, support, or opposition of more than 145 County-related bill and State Budget proposals.

The County's advocacy work in 2025 focused on protecting, supporting, and/or enhancing County operations, programs, funding and the well-being of constituents. Paramount to this work was supporting the County's recovery from the January 2025 wildfires disaster, as well as addressing statutory pressures on County operations. This report summarizes these strategic advocacy efforts.

County-Sponsored Proposals

In 2025, the County's strategic advocacy efforts led to the enactment of six County-sponsored measures. This includes bills that will finance and support the County's recovery from the 2025 January wildfires disaster; improve voting access and security; bolster substance abuse disorder care; improve the administration of



"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

juvenile justice cases; and enhance government employers' bias mitigation and discrimination prevention training programs. The Attachment provides further information on these measures.

County-Advocacy on State Budget Proposals

This year, the County engaged on 24 State Budget items throughout the development of the 2025 State Budget Act. This included one County-sponsored item, 13 County supported items, five opposed items, two opposed-unless-amended items, and three unanticipated opportunities to strengthen the County's fiscal position. These proposals covered a broad range of County priorities, including homelessness and housing, behavioral health, public safety, and wildfire recovery. The County's Sacramento office also advocated on multiple budget trailer bills with direct and indirect impacts on the County.

Through these efforts, CEO-LAIR helped secure or preserve over \$900 million in State funding. This included successfully advocating for State funds to backfill property tax losses from the January 2025 wildfires, along with additional resources to repair specific fire-damaged assets. CEO-LAIR also kept open the option for State loans to support ongoing fire recovery coordination. For information on all State Budget positions, please refer to [County Positions on State Budget Items](#).

County-Advocacy Legislation

This year, the County's Sacramento Advocates actively advocated in sponsorship, co-sponsorship, support, or opposition of 124 County-related bills, reflecting a 44 percent increase compared to the prior session. Of the 60 County-position bills that reached the Governor's desk, 44 were signed or vetoed in alignment with the County's position, resulting in a 73 percent alignment rate.

This year's State advocacy was strongly focused on fire-related response, recovery, and long-term disaster preparedness, reflecting the severe impacts of the January 2025 wildfires on the County. The County also prioritized addressing the significant fiscal impacts of Assembly Bill 218 (2019), which reopened the statute of limitations for child sexual assault claims. Advocacy centered on working with the Legislature and State partners to pursue solutions that support survivors while protecting the fiscal stability of local governments.

CEO-LAIR worked closely with Board offices and impacted departments to review and analyze legislative proposals and identify legislation that had the potential to impact County operations and programs. Overall, this office analyzed over 1,200 State bills, and more closely tracked over 360 bills this session. A summary of bills which the County actively advocated in 2025 can be found at:

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[County of Los Angeles Bills of Interest](#). In addition, details for individual bills, including bills that the County closely monitored, can be found on the County's legislative tracking system at: [County of Los Angeles Legislative Tracking System](#).

Overall Legislative Efforts

Throughout the legislative session, the Sacramento Advocates engaged in multi-faceted and proactive advocacy and related activities. The Attachment provides further information on these efforts. In addition, CEO-LAIR successfully coordinated the Board's Sacramento advocacy trip, supporting 15 meetings with the Governor, officials of his Administration, and Legislative members that helped advance the County's funding stability, housing, health, behavioral health, and wildfire disaster recovery priorities.

Finally, CEO-LAIR's Government Relations staff continued to coordinate individual meetings between members of the State delegation and County Department Heads, as well as held virtual and in-person legislative briefings and tours attended by legislators, legislative staff and agency leaders, in an ongoing effort to enhance State and local collaborations. Government Relations held over 25 meetings, events, and similar programming that focused on top County issues.

The second year of the 2025-26 Legislative Session is expected to begin on January 5, 2026. CEO-LAIR will continue to work with Board offices and departments to advance the County's priorities.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Angela C. Ovalle, Acting Branch Manager, at (213) 974-1348 or AOvalle@ceo.lacounty.gov.

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PC:ec

Attachment

c: All Department Heads



COUNTY-ADVOCACY: SACRAMENTO 2025

COUNTY-SPONSORSHIP: This year's County-sponsored legislation focused on proposals that protect, support and/or enhance County operations, programs, and the well-being of constituents. The County's advocacy led to the successful enactment of the following six County-sponsored bills:

- **AB 287 (Lackey) – Vote Centers Accessibility:** Clarifies accessibility requirements for public buildings serving as vote centers, including parking, curbside voting, and secure election material storage to improve equitable voting for individuals with disabilities.
- **AB 1037 (Elhawary) – Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Care Modernization:** Updates outdated State laws to align with modern evidence-based SUD treatment practices. Key changes include allowing harm reduction language, updating residential facility classifications, improving admission criteria, and expanding access to opioid overdose treatments.
- **SB 303 (Smallwood-Cuevas) – Workplace Bias & Anti-Discrimination Protections:** Ensures government employers' bias mitigation and discrimination prevention training programs and results are not evidence of discrimination in lawsuits to encourage improved training and control liability exposure for public agencies.
- **SB 409 (Archuleta) – Force Account Limit Increase:** Permits a county with a population over nine million to undertake construction projects valued at or below \$125,000 using the county's internal labor force.
- **SB 413 (Allen) – Juvenile Justice Case File Access:** Clarifies that attorneys representing child welfare and probation departments, as well as legal counsel involved in government claims and civil litigation against child welfare and probation departments, are entitled to access to and, as specified, use of juvenile case files.
- **SB 782 (Perez) - Disaster Financing District Amendments:** Expedites the process for establishing Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts and Climate Resilience Districts, allowing local governments to expeditiously finance disaster recovery projects and programs after disasters like the Los Angeles fires, while also addressing the risk of future disasters.



Budget Advocacy: As part of the 2025 State Budget Act, the County successfully helped secure or preserve over \$900 million in State to County funding. Notable wins include:

- **Wildfire Disaster Relief** – Secured approximately \$600 million to help offset fire response costs and property tax losses for two years, significantly reducing the County’s financial risk if federal aid is delayed or denied.
- **Wildfire Preparedness** – Secured two-year funding, \$4.8 million annually, to sustain operations of the LA County Fire Camps.
- **Wildfire Recovery** – Helped secure \$5 million for the California Workforce Development Board to support workforce development in areas of Los Angeles County and Ventura County impacted by wildfires.
- **CalWORKs Single Allocation** – Rejection of the Governor’s proposed \$94.7 million reduction.
- **Child Welfare Programs** – While partial reductions remain, the County helped preserve funding levels that support the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program (\$63.7 million) and Family Urgent Response System (\$22 million), both essential for foster youth and their caregivers.
- **Homelessness and Housing Services** – Helped secure \$83.8 million for Home Safe, \$81 million for Bringing Families Home, and \$44.6 million for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program in one-time investments.
- **Exide Facility Cleanup Funding** – Helped secure \$35 million for the cleanup of residential properties with lead contamination near the former Exide lead-acid battery recycling facility in Vernon, California. The State Budget also includes a \$40 million loan to fund continued cleanup activities at the Exide facility.
- **Proposition 4 Funding** – Helped secure \$64.2 million for Proposition 4 eligible initiatives and projects, including: \$20 million to improve forest health and fire resilience within southern California counties; \$16.2 million for the Eaton Canyon Natural Area and Nature Center; \$15 million for geologic heritage sites including the La Brea Tar Pits; \$5.5 million for Charles White Park; \$5 million for the Hughes Fire Recovery at Castaic Lake; and \$2.5 million for Waterworks District 29.
- **AIDS Drug Assistance Program** – Provided \$75 million from the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Fund to support local programs experiencing loss of federal funding.





New Advocacy Tools and Techniques: The County's Sacramento Office launched several advocacy initiatives to strengthen relationships and deepen engagement with state legislators and Administration officials.

- **Coffee with the County** - Regular informal meetings in legislative offices, creating a friendly space for LAIR staff to build rapport and discuss County priorities with Legislators, legislative staff, and committee members.
- **The County Roundtable** - Took place during the annual Board visit to Sacramento, where attending Supervisors engaged in lightly scripted conversations with LA delegation members and Administration officials. This year's roundtable focused on wildfire response and recovery and proved highly effective by allowing Board members to connect with more legislators in a single day than traditional meetings typically allow.
- **The Download: Connecting LA County to the Capitol** - To further raise the County's profile in Sacramento, CEO-LAIR launched a regularly distributed newsletter titled *The Download: Connecting LA County to the Capitol*. Targeted to the Capitol community, the newsletter highlights County initiatives, sponsored legislation, events, and key advocacy milestones. It helps reinforce the County's leadership on statewide issues and keeps policymakers informed of County efforts.
- **County Participation in Hearings** - Implemented a new process to coordinate County participation in legislative committee hearings, based on requests from legislators or their staff. Requesting offices complete a brief form outlining the subject, proposed speaker, and timing. This approach ensures the right County experts are identified and cleared with enough lead time, improving responsiveness, testimony quality, and coordination with legislative offices and committees.



Members of the Los Angeles County Delegation and Staff, ... to the July 2025 edition of The Download: Connecting LA County to the Capitol.

