Chief Executive Office - Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations

Catching up with LA County

July 24, 2026

COUNTY ADVOCACY-RELATED ACTIONS

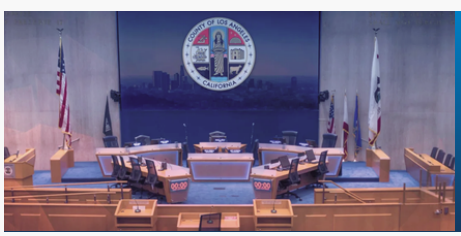
At the July 21st meeting, the Los Angeles County (LA County) Board of Supervisors (Board) took the following legislative-related action:

- **SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 2344 (HANEY) - REHOME ABUSED ANIMALS ACT**

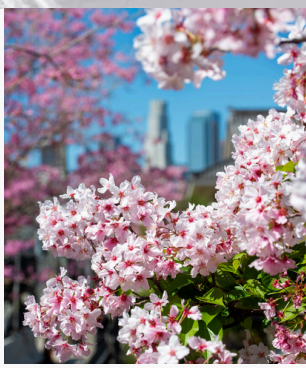
  The Board directed the Chief Executive Office-Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Branch (CEO-LAIR) to support AB 2344. This bill would provide a path forward for certain criminal cases, recognizing that animals should not be treated as impounded property for months to years on end by allowing prosecutors to request a forfeiture hearing 30 days after a defendant fails to appear in court, a hearing within 14 days after the filing of the petition, and the court to order forfeiture of the animals so they can be placed in homes. The bill also prohibits individuals participating in a diversion program for qualifying animal cruelty offenses from possessing animals during the diversion period. Additional details on the motion can be found here.

- **SUPPORTING LOS ANGELES COUNTY RESIDENTS WITH INSURANCE CLAIMS RELATED TO THE LOS PALOS INCIDENT**

  The Board directed the CEO-LAIR to send a letter to California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara, with a copy to the LA County Delegation, requesting proactive engagement with residents impacted by the fire at the Lineage Logistics cold storage facility and support with filing complaints with the California Department of Insurance, and outreach to insurance companies regarding resident concerns. Additional details on the motion can be found here.



Upcoming Board of Supervisors' meeting agendas can be found here.



LA COUNTY HEAT ADVISORY

The LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) urges residents to take precautions to avoid heat-related illness as high temperatures continue to impact the region. Click here for additional tips from DPH on how to keep yourself and others safe during excessive heat.

Visit ready.lacounty.gov/heat to find cooling centers, pools and splash pads, and additional resources near you.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The County is advocating on the following legislation and proposals:

FEDERAL

- **SUPPORT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL (H.R.) 9365 (RIVAS): HEART ACT OF 2026**

  H.R. 9365 would establish the Office of Immigrant Community Mental Health and Resilience and repurpose $76 billion in previously allocated funding to assist impacted communities, including through the provision of mental health services to individuals experiencing fear-based trauma related to immigration law enforcement activities. This bill would help address a growing need for mental health support and services for immigrant communities. Additional details on this position can be found here.

- **SUPPORT H.R. 9372 (SUBRAMANYAM): DATA INFRASTRUCTURE ENERGY MEASUREMENT AND STANDARDS ACT**

  H.R. 9372 would direct the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, in coordination with the Department of Energy, to develop best practices and technical standards for measuring data center energy and water use. This bill would create more consistent rules for data centers and resource usage measurement standards. Additional details on this position can be found here.

STATE

- **OPPOSE SENATE BILL (SB) 934 (WIENER) UNLESS AMENDED: SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY CHANGE EFFORTS**

  SB 934 would extend the statute of limitations for an action arising from harm caused by the provision of sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts to a patient by a licensed mental health professional. This bill would expose the County to lawsuits by broadly allowing claims tied to services involving even routine discussions of a patient's sexual orientation or gender identity. Additional details on this position can be found here.

LA County Recovers

RESOURCES:

- Altadena Commercial Concierge Program is Taking Enrollments
  - Small businesses and commercial property owners in Altadena can get hands-on help securing required permits and licenses, one-on-one technical assistance, and access to essential resources to expedite their recovery and growth, including a 25% faster permit application submission to approval timeline. Click here for more information.
- Fire Recovery Thursdays - Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
  - The DEO and its America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) are hosting weekly recruitment popups for workers and job seekers impacted by the January 2025 wildfires and windstorms, every Thursday at a local AJCC, from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- FEMA Disaster Case Management Program (DCMP)
  - The DCMP is FEMA-funded and provides supplemental Disaster Case Management services to vulnerable populations. To see if you qualify, please call 833-775-3267 or click here.
- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Outreach Centers
  - Although the U.S. SBA disaster loan application filing deadline for the January 2025 disaster has passed, these centers are focused on assisting survivors who have already applied and require additional guidance to complete or move their application forward. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information.
- Deadlines Extended for FEMA's Rental and Continued Temporary Housing Assistance
  - The deadline for FEMA Rental Assistance and Continued Temporary Housing Assistance for LA County wildfire survivors has been extended, providing additional resources to both owners and renters.
- Cal Assist Mortgage Fund
  - This program makes available up to a full year of mortgage assistance up to $100,000 that does not need to be repaid. Eligible homeowners may receive 12 months of mortgage payments, paid directly to their mortgage servicers. Homeowners are encouraged to apply for free as soon as possible. Go to the CalAssist website or call 800-501-0019.
- Department of Mental Health (DMH) Help Continues to Be Available
  - Two Walk-In Centers - Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
    - Eaton Fire Collaborative - 540 W. Woodbury Road, Altadena, CA 91001
    - Palisades Fire Collaborative - 15247 La Cruz Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90272
  - DMH-run fire support line at 833-659-0600.
- LA County One-Stop Permit Centers
  - Open in both the Palisades and Eaton fire burn areas, these centers are available to help guide residents through the rebuilding process, answer any questions they have and connect them with each of the building and planning departments .

INFORMATION FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF NEW FEDERAL PUBLIC CHARGE RULE

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security published a final rule that changes how federal immigration officials evaluate whether certain non-citizens seeking immigration status are considered a "public charge". Although the new rule broadens the factors immigration officials may consider during certain immigration applications, it's important to know that the public charge rule does not apply to everyone. It only affects certain immigrants applying for specific immigration benefits, mainly people applying for lawful permanent residence (a green card) through a family member.

The new rule does not take effect right away. It will become effective on September 18, 2026, and the current public charge rules will remain in place until then. For more information, visit the Office of Immigrant Affairs at oia.lacounty.gov.

APPLICATIONS OPEN:

LA COUNTY'S FIRST INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

As a result of Measure G, approved by voters in 2024, an Independent Ethics Commission is being formed, made up of experienced and passionate residents who will be the guiding force towards a more ethical government. Apply here before applications ***close on July 26, 2026***.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISES RESIDENTS TO REDUCE RISK ASSOCIATED WITH A NATIONWIDE CYCLOSPORIASIS OUTBREAK

While no cases of cyclosporiasis have been linked to LA County at this time, the County Department of Public Health encourages residents to remain aware of symptoms, including watery diarrhea, stomach cramps, bloating, loss of appetite, and fatigue. Residents can help reduce their risk by washing hands and fresh produce thoroughly, practicing safe food handling, and taking extra precautions when traveling.

CALIFORNIA'S CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROGRAM

CalKIDS is a California state program that automatically creates scholarship accounts for children and families to prepare for college or career training after high school. Children born in California starting on July 1, 2022, and eligible public school students are awarded CalKIDS Scholarship Accounts with an initial seed deposit in it. Enrollment is automatic, and families are not required to contribute. Learn more at CalKIDS.org.