



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

3530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1140 • Los Angeles, CA 90010 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-4748  
<http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

## PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES



April 3, 2017

The Public Policy Committee acts in accordance with the role of the Commission on HIV, as dictated by Los Angeles County Code 3.29.090. Consistent with Commission Bylaws Article VI, Section 2, no Ryan White resources are used to support Public Policy Committee activities.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Aaron Fox, MPM, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Kyle Baker	Jason Brown	Cheryl Barrit, MPIA
Will Watts, Esq., <i>Co-Chair</i>	Terry Goddard, MA	Joseph Green	Dina Jauregui
Jerry D. Gates, PhD	José Munoz	Katja Nelson	Jason Jones
Edd Cockrell	Maria Roman/Juan Preciado	Craig Pulsipher	Dawn Mc Clendon
Lee Kochems, MA	Rebecca Ronquillo		<b>DHSP STAFF</b>
Eric Paul Leue	Martin Sattah, MD		Maria Orosco
Ricky Rosales			

### CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET

- 1) **Agenda:** Public Policy Committee Agenda, 4/3/17
- 2) **Document:** US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Proposed President 2018 Budget
- 3) **Document:** California Dept of Health Care Services Summary and Preliminary Fiscal Analysis of the Medicaid Provisions in the Federal American Health Care Act
- 4) **Document:** LA County CEO Memo Re: Executive Summary on the President’s America First” Budget Blueprint
- 5) **Document:** Proposed 2017 Policy Agenda and Priorities
- 6) **Table:** Draft 2017 Legislative Docket, 4/3/17
- 7) **Documents:** Legislation corresponding to the 2017 Legislative Docket, 4/3/17

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Co Chair Aaron Fox called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
**Motion 1:** Agenda was not approved due to lack of quorum.
3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**  
**Motion 2:** 3/6/17 Meeting minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agendized or Follow-Up):** There were no comments.
5. **COMMITTEE COMMENT (Non-Agendized or Follow-Up):** There were no comments.

**6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- Executive Director Cheryl Barrit announced that the President is not expected to release his detailed 2018 budget until May 2017. However, Ms. Barrit alerted Committee to the state's analysis of the federal "skinny" budget as the summary provides a good explanation of the AHCA, its proposed changes to Medi-Cal and its impact on California.
- Ms. Barrit referred the Committee to the White House's proposed "skinny" budget, specifically portions related to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and commented that although the budget is vague in terms of details, the County recognizes, in its memo from the CEO, that it would be subjected to a major reduction in federal funding by way of the HHS and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which are the two departments the County receives most of its discretionary funding. Ms. Barrit indicated that there is still the process of appropriations for the current year so there are no changes anticipated until the full budget is released in May. Ms. Barrit also alerted Committee to the White House's proposed cuts to the National Institute of Health (NIH).
- Ms. Barrit responded to concerns regarding the state of the Ryan White Program (RWP) and indicated that she is working with all Committees on common messaging and asked that we remain mindful in our messaging and maintain our focus and discussions on access to healthcare and in looking at all systems of care for people living with HIV and other vulnerable populations.

**7. CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:**

- American Health Care Act (AHCA). Aaron Fox reported that the proposed American Health Care Act (AHCA) was "dead" as it was pulled minutes before the bill was to be voted on. Mr. Fox indicated the failure of the repeal was not only due to lack of consensus but also due to multiple stakeholders across the country mobilizing and participating in grass-root advocacy. Mr. Fox further indicated that although there isn't a current timeline as to when the bill would be reintroduced, it will happen and we should stay diligent in our efforts; additional focus should be to monitor HHS Secretary Tom Price's next steps relating to his administrative discretion to change regulations concerning the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Mr. Fox reminded the Committee that states can still expand Medicaid under the current provisions of the ACA.
- Federal Budget. Mr. Fox reported that this year's budget has not been finalized and we are currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR). Additionally:
  - ❖ The government must move forward with a CR or budget agreement by the end of the month to avoid a government shut-down.
  - ❖ President Trump is proposing a \$17 billion cut this fiscal year to support the border wall and is proposing a \$54 billion cut next year to discretionary funds, i.e. HUD and HHS, and service-oriented programs, i.e. NPR, EPA, etc., and shift to the Department of Defense to rebuild military. Fox opined that the proposed cuts will more than likely not happen but that we should still prepare for some level of cuts to discretionary funds.
  - ❖ There is a general consensus for the support of the Ryan White Program (RWP), which is identified by name in the "skinny" budget. Concern, however, is that the RWP is not authorized which could mean that, although funding would not be cut from the RWP, funding could be shifted to other programs, i.e. Opioid treatment and prevention.
  - ❖ It is unlikely that funding to CDC prevention programs would be cut to the extent threatened in the "skinny" budget due to elevating public health concerns, i.e. Zika.
  - ❖ Congress passed a vote to allow states to defund Planned Parenthood and justified action by providing funding to community clinics to provide similar services. Mr. Fox indicated that community clinics do not have the cultural competency, services and/or capacity to accommodate the populations who receive services from community clinics.
- Supreme Court Nominee Neil Gorsuch. Republicans will exercise unprecedented "nuclear option" to confirm Gorsuch due to filibuster.
- US Consensus Bureau. Despite efforts in support, gender identity and sexual orientation demographic questions will not be reflected in the upcoming US Consensus Survey due to alleged funding issues.
- Tax Reform. The next priority on the President's agenda is tax reform. However, savings from the ACA was needed in order to pursue tax reform.

➡ C Pulsipher to provide California HIV Alliance's proposed budget for May 1<sup>st</sup> PPC meeting.

## 8. DEVELOPMENT OF 2017 COH LEGISLATIVE DOCKET:

### A. 2017 Policy Priorities and Agenda

- Ms. Barrit explained the purpose for the proposed 2017 Policy Priorities and Agenda and stated that the final draft includes suggestions made at the March 3, 2017 PPC meeting, recommendations made to the County's CEO legislative office, and specific language regarding (1) preservation of access to and continuity of care, (2) social determinants of health, (3) biomedical prevention interventions, (4) reduction of HIV/AIDS and STI drug costs, (5) HIV prevention and care continuum, (6) HIV criminalization laws, and (7) ADAP. Kyle Baker (DHSP) also reviewed document and is in support of the final draft.
  - ❖ Eric Paul Leue suggested that although sex work and the criminalization thereof is not on our legislative radar for California, it is from a national perspective. Mr. Leue suggested that at some point we should include sex work as one of the Commission's legislative priorities. Craig Pulsipher suggested that the Committee revise the HIV Criminalization bullet to add populations "at risk" of HIV/AIDS.
  - ❖ Due to lack of quorum, the proposed 2017 Policy Priorities and Agenda with final changes incorporated is expected to be adopted at the May 1, 2017 PPC meeting.
- ➡ COH Staff to revise ninth bullet of the draft 2017 Policy Priorities and Agenda to read, "Support proposals that eliminate discrimination against or the criminalization of people living with, **or at risk of**, HIV/AIDS."
- **2017 COH Legislative Docket:**

Fox reminded the Committee of the life cycle of legislation. Currently, most bills are going through their first Committee and will then travel through appropriation for funding approvals. Thereafter, the bill will elevate to Governor for approval or veto. Review and discussion of the draft 2017 COH Legislative Docket ensued. **Please refer to draft 2017 COH Legislative Docket.**

  - ❖ Due to lack of quorum, the proposed 2017 COH Legislative Docket with suggested changes will be agendized for the May 1, 2017 PPC meeting with corresponding motion for approval.
- ➡ AB 182: A Fox/C Pulsipher to follow up with author of bill and Drug Policy Alliance (DPA) to request amendment to include harm reduction language and potentially include a broad list of drugs, specifically meth. Also, seek revision of language striking out any references of stigma and condemnation of drug use.
- ➡ AB 186: Emphasis as Commission priority in recommendation to BOS legislative office upon COH approval of docket.
- ➡ AB 265: A Fox/C Pulsipher to follow up with Health Access, DPA and/or other stakeholders to clarify language. Current language reads as if consumers would not be able to access patient assistance programs.
- ➡ AB 1534: C Pulsipher to follow up with Arleen Leibowitz (UCLA) for analysis and report back to PPC.
- ➡ COH Staff to add following bills to docket for consideration at the May 1, 2017 PPC meeting: AB 700, SB 17, SB 31, SB 54 and other bills as provided by A Fox.

## 9. NEXT STEPS

- The final draft 2017 Policy Priorities and Agenda and an updated draft to the 2017-2018 Legislative Docket will be agendized on the next meeting agenda with corresponding motion(s) for approval.

## 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No announcements were made.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.