



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



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HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • <http://hiv.lacounty.gov> ORG • VIRTUAL WEBEX MEETING

*Presence at virtual meetings is recorded based on the attendance roll call. Only members of the Commission on HIV are accorded voting privileges and must verbally acknowledge their attendance in order to vote. Approved meeting minutes are available on the Commission's website; meeting recordings are available upon request.*

**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

April 5, 2021



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	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Lee Kochems, MA, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Nestor Kamurigi	Cheryl Barrit, MPIA
Katja Nelson, MPP, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Ricky Rosales	Carolyn Echols-Watson, MPA
Alasdair Burton, ( <i>Alt.</i> )	Tony Spears (Alternate)	Catherine LaPointe (Intern)
Gerald Garth		Abdul-Malik Ogunlade (Intern)
Eduardo Martinez (Alternate)		
Isabella Rodriguez		
Martin Sattah, MD		

\*Members of the public may confirm their attendance by contacting Commission staff @hivcom@lachiv.org.

\*\* Meeting minutes may be corrected up to one year from the date of Commission approval.

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- 15) **Notice:** Senate Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services Hearing, 3/5/2021
  - 16) **Letter:** STD letter to DPH, B. Ferrer, Department Head with attachment.
  - 17) **Information Document:** Achieving Functional Zero in Los Angeles County
  - 18) **PowerPoint:** Methamphetamine Use and HIV in MSM in Los Angeles: Biology and Behavior, 7/21/2020
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  - 23) **Article:** Big Idea in Brief - Improving the Health of People Who Use Drugs and People in Recovery is Essential for Ending the HIV Epidemic, 3/2021
  - 24) **Notice:** Notice of Public Hearing Extension of the Public Comment Period DP-18-015, Syringe Exchange Program Regulatory Consistency
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  - 26) **Proposal:** End the Epidemics, FY 2021-22 End the Epidemics Budget Proposals, 02/01/2021
  - 27) **Document:** Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, Resolution-on-Ensuring Equity and Justice in Ending-the-HIV-Epidemic, 3/9/2021
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**CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND CHECK-IN, CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENTS:** Ms. Nelson welcomed all and called the meeting to order. Attendees introduced themselves and stated their conflicts of interest.

#### **I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

##### **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION #1:** Approve the Agenda Order, as presented (***Passed by Consensus***).

##### **2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION #2:** Approve 2/1/2021 and 3/1/2021 Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented (***Passed by Consensus***).

#### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

##### **3. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON ITEMS OF INTEREST WITHIN COMMISSION JURISDICTION:** There were no comments.

#### **III. COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

##### **4. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO RECOMMEND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS, OR ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION DUE TO AN EMERGENCY, OR IF NEED FOR ACTION AROSE AFTER POSTING AGENDA:** There were no items.

#### **IV. REPORTS**

##### **5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT**

###### **a. Committee and Caucus Updates**

Cheryl Barrit, Executive Director (ED) reported the following.

New members Gerald Garth and Isabella Rodriguez were welcomed to the PPC.

Committee members were encouraged to complete the Health HIV survey to assess the effectiveness of the Commission as a planning council. If a 90% response rate is achieved, each Commissioner will receive a \$20 gift card.

The Planning, Priorities and Allocations (PP&A) Committee will review Commission directives to the Division HIV/STD Programs (DHSP) at the April 20, 2021 meeting. PP&A ranks services and funding allocations. The directives provide specific instruction on how to meet the recommend rankings and allocations. PPC has identified multi community needs through policy priorities and bills selected for the legislative docket. These actions intersect with directives.

The Committee was informed of the following meetings.

- Standard and Best Practices Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 10AM to Noon.
- Aging Task Force scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 1 to 3PM.
- Full Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 8, 2021 9AM to 1PM.
- Consumer Caucus meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 8, 2021 3 to 4:30PM.  
Alasdair Burton, Co-Chair of the Consumer Caucus invited PPC members to the Thursday's Consumer Caucus meeting.

The Commission will continue working with the Human Relations Commission to encourage and inform members on communication skills for discussing difficult subjects such as racism. The Commission is encouraging discussion initiated by Committee and Commission readings from "So You Want to Talk about Race" be shared at full Commission meetings.

HIV STD surveillance data will be available at the May 2021 Commission meeting. Members were encouraged to ask DHSP questions related to surveillance data at the April Commission meeting for inclusion in the May presentation.

Black/African American Community (BAAC) Task Force (TF) Co-Chairs will meet with Commission Committees. Staff is working with co-chairs on logistics.

The Committee was requested to consider Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) as a standing agenda item to review committee efforts in achieving EHE plan goals. Dedicating time to understand the supporting role of the Committee/Commission in the EHE plan. There was discussion about requesting a DHSP EHE plan representative to attend Committee meetings for input and an overview of the EHE plan. DHSP EHE Program Manager, Julie Tolentino will attend the Consumer Caucus meeting on Thursday, April 8, 2021

- ➡ The Committee agreed to add EHE as a standing item on the PPC agenda.
- ➡ ED will follow-up with Julie Tolentino. Committee members were encouraged to send specific questions to staff to be addressed at the May 2021 PPC meeting.

## 6. CO-CHAIR REPORT

The Co-Chair open the floor for new members Gerald Garth and Isabella Rodriguez. Both describe their legislative experience.

- a. Act Now Against Meth (ANAM) Update  
The Wall Las Memorias
- b. "So, You Want to Talk about Race" by I. Oluo Reading Activity"  
Co-Chair Nelson read P.230 at the end of the book.

## **V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7. LEGISLATIVE DOCKET**

The Committee reviewed multiple bills. The following list outcomes of the review.

#### **AB 15 COVID-19 Relief: Tenancy: Tenant Stabilization Act of 2021 &**

#### **AB 16 Tenancies: COVID-19 Tenant, Small Landlord, and Affordable Housing Provider Stabilization Act of 2021**

- ➡ Contact Chiu's Office and/or agency sponsor to request additional information and a possible presentation to PPC. Specifically, how local, state, and federal bills will interact with multiple COVID-19 Tenant Relief bills. (i.e., from legislatures office)

It was noted, LAHSA has requested a postponement of a performance report until July 2021, after canceling the 2021 homeless count.

#### **AB 19 Unemployment Insurance Compensation COVID-19 Pandemic: Temporary Benefits**

The bill has been postponed due to the federal government extending unemployment benefits through September 2021.

#### **AB 65 California Universal Basic Income Program**

- ➡ Contact Low's office for information on bill implementation.

#### **AB 71 Homelessness funding: Bring California Home Act**

- ➡ Contact Rivas' office for bill spending plan details.

#### **AB 240 Local Health Department Workforce Assessment**

- ➡ Include in Legislative Docket with a position of support with questions.
- ➡ Contact Rodriguez's Office for additional bill information including the bill spending plan and methods of maintaining accountability and/or monitoring.

Los Angeles County is watching this bill. The following link is to the legislative verbiage

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB240](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB240)

#### **AB 328 Reentry Housing Program**

- ➡ Contact Chiu Office for a definition of Continuum of Care (CoC) as defined by the bill.

#### **AB 439 Certificates of Death: Gender Identity**

- ➡ Include in Legislative Docket with a position of support.

#### **AB 835 Hospital Emergency departments: HIV testing**

- ➡ Contact Nazarian's Office or AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) for information about how the bill has evolved from the last iteration (AB 2439).

- ➡ Include in Legislative Docket with a position of support.

It was noted, the Commission, DHSP and the County have historically supported emergency room HIV testing. The following link is to the legislation

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB835](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB835)

#### **AB 1344 State Department of Public Health: Needle and Syringe Exchange Services**

- ➡ The Committee is in support.

#### **AB 1400 Guaranteed Health Care for All**

- ➡ The Committee is in support.

It was noted that financing for the program is not yet defined. The bill is supported by the Nursing Association.

**AB1407 Health Care: Discrimination**

- The Committee is in support.
- Contact Burke's Office for additional information on implicit bias training included in the bill.

**SB 17 Public Health Crisis: Racism**

- The Committee is in support.

**SB 110 Substance Use Disorder Services: Contingency Management Services**

- The Committee opposed unless Amended.
- Contact Weiner's Office for more information.

**SB217 Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and Human Immune-Deficiency Virus (HIV) prevention education**

- The Committee's position is opposed unless amended.

**SB 221 Health Care Coverage Timely Access to Care**

- The Committee is in support.

Discussion included the bill will encourage insurers to ensure person seeking services. Providers that do not provide services would be considered a criminal act. There was discussion on associated costs. The National Union of Healthcare workers supports the bill. The following is the link to SB 221 resource information <https://sd11.senate.ca.gov/news/20210114-senator-wiener-introduces-legislation-strengthen-timely-care-mental-health-and>

**SB 225 Medical Procedures: Individuals Born with Variations in their Physical Sex Characteristics**

- Include in Legislative Docket with a position of support.

The Transgender Caucus supports the bill. The Committee discussed the change in the age of decision in the bill and noted it was twelve years old from 6 years old. The following links are to legislative bill verbiage and ACLU position paper.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB225](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB225)  
<https://aclucaaction.org/sb-225-bodily-autonomy-dignity-and-choice-act/>

**SB258 Aging**

- The Committee is in support.

**SB 306 Sexually Transmitted Disease: Testing**

- The Committee is in support.

**SB 316 Medi-Cal: Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics**

- The Committee is in support.

AB 683 Medi-Cal eligibility was supported on the Committee's legislative docket for 2020-21.

**SB 357 Crimes: Loitering for the Purpose of Engaging in a Prostitution Offense**

- Include in Legislative Docket with a position of support.
- The Committee requested feedback from the Transgender Caucus.

It was noted, the bill will decriminalize loitering as it relates to sex work. The current law impacts those most vulnerable to HIV transmission. Legislation information may be found at

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB357](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB357)

**SB 464 California Food Assistance Program: Eligibility**

- ➡ The Committee is in support.

It was noted, this bill will increase food security.

**SB 523 Health Care Coverage: Contraceptives**

- ➡ Include in Legislative Docket with a position of support.

The Committee noted this supports sexual reproductive health. Legislation information may be found at [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB523](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB523)

**SB 803 Mental Health Services: Peer Support Specialist Certification**

- ➡ The bill was signed by the Governor. The Committee will continue to follow the State budgeting process for funding approved for this legislation.

County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC) provides additional information on bills related to health services. The information can be found at the following link <https://cheac.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/3-26-Bill-Chart-5.pdf>

**H.R. 5 Equality Act**

- ➡ The Committee is in support.

**International Human Rights Defense Act of 2021**

- ➡ The Committee is in support.

The Committee will monitor when the bill is introduced. The bill allows government to address LGBTQ issues in global affairs for LGBTQ. Additionally, the increase legislation will awareness and encourage positive actions on LGBTQ human rights issues.

- ➡ The Legislative Docket will be placed on the May 2021 meeting agenda as a motion for approval.

**8. STATE POLICY AND BUDGET UPDATE**

**9. FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE**

**10. COUNTY POLICY UPDATE**

**VI. NEXT STEPS**

**11. TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP:** There was no additional discussion.

**12. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- ➡ The Committee request the docket be placed early in the agenda to ensure completion and approval.

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**13. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30PM.