



Update from the Office of Supervisor Kuehl

Supporting Women and Girls in Iran

After 22-year-old Mahsa Amini died in police custody in Iran in September, the women and girls of Iran have been boldly and bravely fighting the good fight against an oppressively sexist patriarchal society. That's why Supervisor Kuehl was happy to co-author Supervisor Hilda Solis's motion formalizing the County's support for women's rights in Iran and the brave Iranians protesting against human rights violations, now joined by so many more around the globe.

The motion further commends the Biden Administration's actions, including sanctions on Iran's morality police and senior security and government officials who have engaged in human rights violations responding to the protests. Finally, it expresses the County's opposition to the state-imposed internet restrictions and calls for lifting the restrictions to restore and expand internet access in Iran.

Let it be known that LA County stands firmly against violence against women and gender inequity and supports the women and girls in Iran and across the world.

Purchase of the West LA Courthouse

Supervisor Kuehl is so excited and grateful that the Board passed her motion initiating the County's acquisition of the West LA Courthouse for housing, much of it designated as affordable housing!

The motion directs the Real Estate division of the Chief Executive Office to post a Notice of Intent to purchase the Courthouse and to identify \$32.2M in funding for the acquisition. When completed, the project, West LA Commons, will yield 926 new units of housing, with 431 of them being income-restricted for low-income and formerly homeless families and individuals.

Our office has been working for years to find a way to transform this underutilized property into a community asset, and I'm so glad to see this project moving ever closer to the finish line. Our gratitude to the Judicial Council for their help. Learn more about the proposed redevelopment here!

Preventing Fentanyl poisoning in LA County

A trained individual armed with naloxone is a formidable foot soldier in the battle against the opioid crisis—they can save a life and offer a second chance, sparing families and communities from the all too common tragedy of a fatal dose of fentanyl laced into something else. That's why the Board passed two motions aimed at increasing the presence of naloxone and those trained to administer it in public places and bolstering our prevention efforts.

If a person has opiates in their system, naloxone will block the opiate receptors and prevent someone from succumbing to fentanyl poisoning. As counterfeit drugs tainted with fentanyl continue to proliferate, the risk of

opiate deaths to people who are not intentionally using opiates is rising. Since naloxone does not affect a person who does not have opiates in their system, the risk of inappropriately administering naloxone is almost non-existent.

The first motion the Board passed, authored by Supervisor Solis, directs the Department of Public Health and LA County Office of Education to report back to the Board on their partnerships with local schools and their joint efforts to curb drug use and prevent these deaths in schools. The second motion, authored by Supervisor Hahn, seeks to promote harm reduction training (including naloxone) at our public libraries.

American Rescue Plan Funding Report

The Board received an update on American Rescue Plan Funding this week, highlighting the Department of Arts and Culture with a presentation from Department Head Kristen Sakoda.

The Department of Arts and Culture received around \$28.1 million in ARP funding, which will be used to provide grants to various organizations that support the County's goals of fueling our creative economy and promoting equity in the arts and helping in recovery from pandemic losses. The department is focused on spreading the word among community organizations, especially those in geographic areas where arts access can grow. These grants will help further the work of organizations helping young people build careers in the arts, especially justice-involved and underserved youth, and help our region's economic recovery by revitalizing the creative and cultural works that draw so many to our region.

Honoring Michael Castillo

Finally, the Board passed a motion authored by Supervisor Janice Hahn dedicating a room in the Hall of Administration in honor of a valued staff member of LA County's Homeless Initiative, Michael Castillo, who passed away suddenly just a few weeks ago.

Michael served the County for over 30 years and was part of the original team at the Homeless Initiative. He was the Homeless Initiative liaison to the Homeless Outreach Services Teams (HOST). Michael was also very involved in the work to reduce the risk of fires in our high-risk zones throughout the County, including the Santa Monica Mountains. Our thoughts are with his family, and we hope this gesture shows them how much his County family deeply appreciated his public service.



— A S S E M B L Y M E M B E R —

Isaac Bryan

R E P R E S E N T I N G A S S E M B L Y D I S T R I C T 5 4

We just had our staff retreat where we discussed the state of the district, our legislative and district priorities, our office mission statement, some legislation ideas, and did some good bonding. We are entering the planning stage for next year's legislative cycle, so if you or an organization have a bill idea to share, you can do that here on our [There Ought to Be a Law](#) form.

Additionally, please reach out with your events! If you'd like the Member to attend, you can fill out the form for our scheduler to see it.

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**CALIFORNIANS
AGE 50 OR
OLDER MAY
QUALIFY FOR
MORE MEDI-CAL
BENEFITS.**

Beginning May 1, 2022,
immigration status does not
matter. California residents who
are 50 or older and who meet all
Medi-Cal eligibility criteria may
qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal.

Call 1-866-613-3777 to find out if you qualify or to
get more information.

dpss.lacounty.gov



Additional Resources

StayHousedLA.org -

Stay Housed LA is a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and local community and legal services providers. The site provides Los Angeles County residents with information and resources to keep people in their homes. At the Stay Housed LA website, you can find out more about your rights by participating in a virtual tenant workshop, get the legal assistance you need, and sign up for updates to stay keyed into LA County's evolving housing climate.

VaccinateLACounty.com -

Vaccinate LA County is your one stop shop for vaccine information. You can find a site nearby, learn about the

vaccines, data, and find information on mobile and homebound vaccinations. Please reach out if you have specific questions - our office is here to help.

ReopeningLACounty.com -

For best practices for businesses, information regarding COVID-19, the current Health Officer Order, and more – ReopeningLACounty.com has information to help you stay healthy, safe and informed.