



Officers

April 23, 2026

Gail Newel, MD, MPH
President
(emeritus)

The Honorable Monique Limon
Senate President Pro Tempore
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento CA, 95814

Ori Tzvieli, MD
President-Elect
Contra Costa County

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and
Fiscal Review
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento CA, 95814

The Honorable Roger Niello
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and
Fiscal Review
1021 O Street, Suite 7110
Sacramento CA, 95814

Nancy Williams, MD, MPH
Past-President/Treasurer
(emeritus)

Aimee Sisson, MD, MPH
Secretary
Yolo County

RE: County H.R. 1 Multi-Year Budget Request

Directors at Large

Dear President Pro Tempore Limón, Senator Laird, and Senator Niello,

Joseph Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc
(emeritus)

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers in California’s sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, respectfully requests that the Legislature partner with counties to address the impacts of Federal House Resolution 1 (H.R. 1) on California’s health and human services safety net. This federal policy shifts significant fiscal responsibility to counties at a time when local systems are already under considerable strain, threatening access to care and the capacity of public health administration. We are requesting multi-year state funding of \$1.9 billion in 2026-27 and \$4.5 billion in 2027-28 to address these impacts.

Cameron Kaiser, MD
Solano County

Dave Canton, MD, JD
Butte County

Rob Oldham, MD, MSHA
Placer County

H.R. 1 will substantially increase county costs and workload. For example, counties face an estimated \$190 million in new annual CalFresh administrative costs statewide. Because 1991 realignment revenues do not automatically adjust to these added responsibilities, counties must reprioritize existing resources. At the same time, Medi-Cal disenrollments are expected to increase demand for county indigent care, which counties are legally required to provide. Current estimates indicate that the increased demand for indigent care resulting from H.R. 1 will cost counties \$761 million in 2026-27 and \$2.4 billion in 2027-28 and ongoing. These increased pressures occur alongside existing fiscal constraints, including proposed increases in county responsibility for IHSS cost growth, further compounding local budget strain.

Karen Relucio, MD
(emeritus)

Anissa Davis, MD, MPH,
(emeritus)

Eric Sergienko, MD, MPH
(emeritus)

For local health jurisdictions, these combined impacts threaten fiscal stability while increasing demand on public health, behavioral health, and safety-net systems, including public hospitals. As uninsured populations grow, counties will face expanded indigent care obligations without commensurate resources, weakening prevention, early intervention, and community health outcomes and exacerbating health inequities.

Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH
San Luis Obispo County

Timothy Peters, MD
Tehama County

Maggie Park, MD
San Joaquin County

HOAC urges adoption of a multi-year budget solution that stabilizes county indigent care systems, supports local health departments, and ensures counties can implement H.R. 1 without undermining essential public health functions. For these reasons, we respectfully request \$1.9 billion in 2026-27 and \$4.5 billion in 2027-28. We appreciate your leadership and remain committed to partnership in protecting the health of Californians.

Staff

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh
Executive Director
Health Officers Association of California

Dalia Navarro
Director of Operations

Hilary Peery
Meeting Planner

Isabella Argueta
Director of Legislation

Zach Flowers
Legislative Analyst