## **NAACP**

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Santa Maria/ Lompoc Branch National Association for the Advancement of Color People P.O. Box 1092 Santa Maria, CA. 93456

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October 7, 2025

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County Administration Building Board Hearing Room, Fourth Floor 105 East Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA. 93101

RE: Department Item 1, 10-7-25

Dear Supervisors,

This letter is written on behalf of Santa Maria-Lompoc National Association For the Advancement of Colored People (Santa Maria-Lompoc NAACP) its' members, officers, and Executive Committee, to convey our request that you NOT consider transferring/relocation of 7500 residents of Santa Barbara County Public Health to another provider until meetings have been held with community members and ALL community groups affected by this possible decision HAVE BEEN CONSULTED and a satisfactorily solution has been reached.

In considering what is happening right now, I am reminded of Martin Niemoller:

"First, they came for the socialists, and I DID NOT SPEAK OUT- because I was not a socialist. Then, they came for the trade unionists, and I DID NOT SPEAK OUT – Because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I DID NOT SPEAK OUT - Because I was not a Jew.

Then THEY CAME FOR ME – AND THERE WAS NO ONE LEFT TO SPEAK FOR ME!"

Presently Supervisors, you are being asked to transfer and relocate over 7500 Public Health clients (many with no verification of citizenship who pay taxes like every other resident of the County) to other providers because under the "One Big Beautiful Bill,"

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there is the real possibility that Public Health will lose Federal funding, if you do not; however, what about our health, THE COMMUNITY'S HEALTH? We have REAL CONCERNS THAT ONCE PATIENTS ARE RELOCATED/TRANSFERRED THAT HEALTH CARE WILL TRANSFER WITH THEM AND WE BELIEVE HEALTH CARE IS A RIGHT, NOT A RPIVILEGE. What guarantees are there that these patients will get healthcare services?

Our questions are, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN THEY(the Federal Government) WANT YOU TO COMPLY WITH THEIR VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN THEY COME FOR YOU? WE STRONGLY URGE YOU to HOLD the line. "If not NOW, WHEN."

We STAND with the residents of Santa Barbara County. HOLD THE LINE!

Sincerely,

Lawanda Lyons-Pruitt

LAWANDA LYONS-PRUITT

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**NAACP MISSION:** Our mission is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.



Santa Marial Lompoc Branch

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