

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment

From: Emily Zacarias <emilyrzacarias@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 5, 2025 6:00 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment on Hearing (County Health Department's Budget Rebalancing Plan)

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Board Supervisors,

This letter is to object to the proposal by Public Health Director, Dr. Hammami, to deny 7500 patients with "unsatisfactory immigration status" health care at all 5 public health clinics in SB County. This decision will have disastrous effects on our immigrant community, who rely on Medi-Cal and these clinics to get the care they need. Our community depends on timely access to care that prevents the spread of disease and keeps us all healthy. SB County should be standing behind our migrant communities, like you did when our communities were the recent targets of raids by Federal ICE agents.

Public Health clinics are the main safety net of people seeking low cost care. To "re-assign" patients to other providers (who we don't even know will take them) is a slap in the face to these hard-working community members, who have already been suffering the widespread effects of ICE raids, detainment, kidnappings and deportation in our town. Enough is enough. Right now, SB is one of the only counties in CA that is choosing to re-assign these patients and deny them care at public health facilities. Even the Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics and American Indian Health are not doing this. It seems Dr. Hammami is capitulating to the Trump Administration's scare tactics, rather than standing behind our Governor, who has promised in the budget to fully fund UIS childless adults until July 2026. Dr. Hammami won't even let UIS patients pay out of pocket for services! In fact, Atty Gen. Bonta, along with 20 other state attorneys general have filed a lawsuit to stop the Trump Administration from restricting access to public benefit programs based on immigration status.

Another concern is who is on the list of these 7500 patients and where did it come from? This is highly protected information and clinics and hospitals have tight restrictions on who can access that data. Will CenCal be providing this info? There is currently an injunction on providing any immigration status to federal agents, and having a list with 7500 undocumented SB residents on it, is highly suspect. How can we guarantee these people will be protected, or that they will even feel safe seeking medical care due to their info being out there, with the threat of kidnappings by ICE agents looming, instilling fear into our families? Additionally, children and pregnant women will still be covered under CA state MediCal, so will the list only have childless adults on it?

Lastly, his proposed cuts to medical staff will effectively cause these health clinics to grind to a halt. Medical Assistants, Nurses, Lab assistants, doctors, all being cut--is outrageous! As a member of local SEIU 721 public sector workers union, I am offended by these cuts to our labor. I would ask the Board of Supervisors to take a look at the number of high-ranking administrators that have been added to the CHD since Dr. Hammami took this position and question why no lay-offs were proposed for those positions that are not involved with the day-to-day care of our most vulnerable population.

Thank you very much for your consideration on this important issue.

Respectfully,

Emily Zacarias

Katherine Douglas

From: Vanessa Terán <vanessa.teran@mixteco.org>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 4:31 PM
To: sbcob; Steve Lavagnino; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Bob Nelson; Roy Lee
Cc: Vanessa Teran; Genevieve Flores-Haro
Subject: Public Comment: Vote NO on Layoffs & NO Transference of Undocumented Community Members – Protect Immigrant Communities & Healthcare Access

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Capps, and County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on the proposed layoffs of more than 100 county employees who provide critical healthcare and social services, and the immediate stop of the transference of 7,500 undocumented immigrant community members, and to maintain them within the Santa Barbara County Public Health (SBCPH) system.

This proposal threatens not only the livelihoods of county workers but also the healthcare access of thousands of undocumented and immigrant families who depend on healthcare and mental health services, particularly during these times.

Labor Rights are Immigrant Rights – and access to healthcare is a human right. Please stand with our community and protect both the workers and the families they serve.

I ask you to reject these layoffs, and halt any relocation and transference to outside clinics and hospitals of undocumented immigrant beneficiaries of Medi-Cal within the Santa Barbara Public Health system, and invest in protecting the health and dignity of all Santa Barbara County residents.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Terán
Director of Policy
MICOP

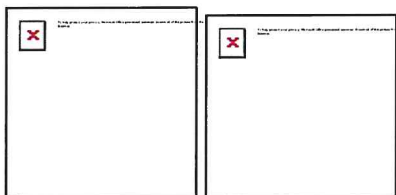
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Vanessa Terán

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Our mission: To support, organize, and empower the indigenous migrant communities in California's Central Coast (the ancestral, and unceded homelands of the Chumash Peoples) . [MICOP](#) is the home of [Radio Indígena, 94.1 FM](#). *As a non-profit organization, we are always appreciative of your support; all donations are tax-deductible. [Donate today](#). To learn more about the Indigenous people's land on which your home or work sits, visit: [native-land.ca](#)*



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