County of San Diego
Government Affairs & Legislative Advocacy

August 6, 2026

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COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Goals for Today

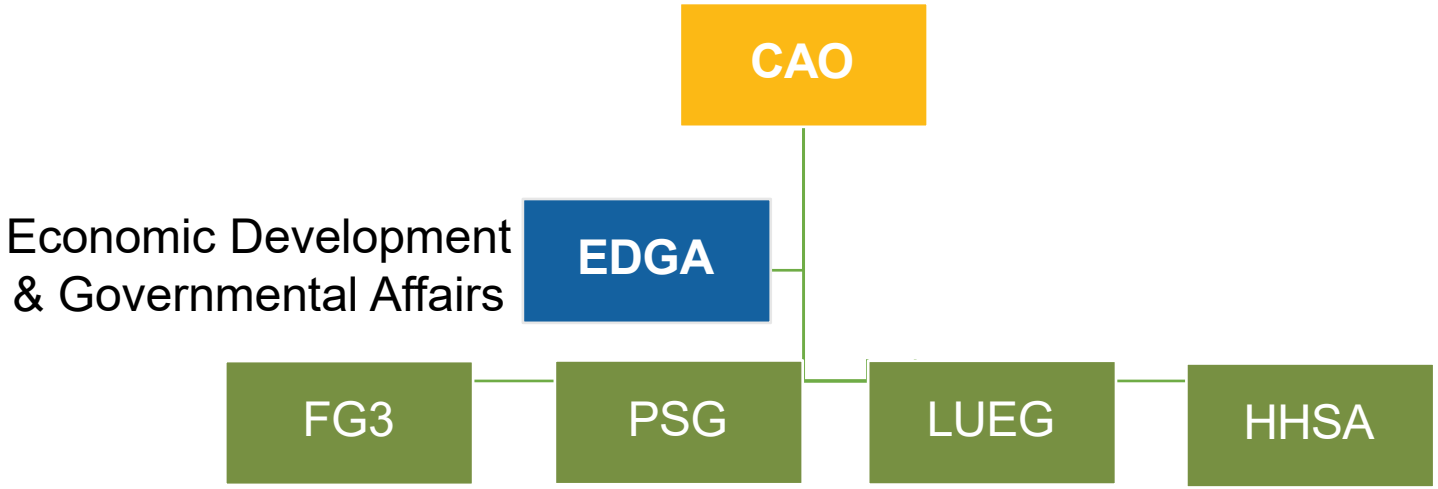
- 2026 & 2027 Legislative Program
- 2026 Behavioral Health Advocacy
- Avenues to Advocate



County Legislative Org Structure

COUNTY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES





Legislative Program

The Legislative Program provides guidance and authority for the County's advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels.

It has three components:

- Sponsorship Proposals
- Priority Issues
- Policy Guidelines



2027 Legislative Program

- Timeline (Early August 2026 - December 2026)
- Departmental Review of 2026 Legislative Program
- Public Comment Period (August – September)
- Share Feedback - Community Forum or Engage Page
- EDGA Drafts (October – November)
- Board of Supervisor Review/Approval (December 2026)

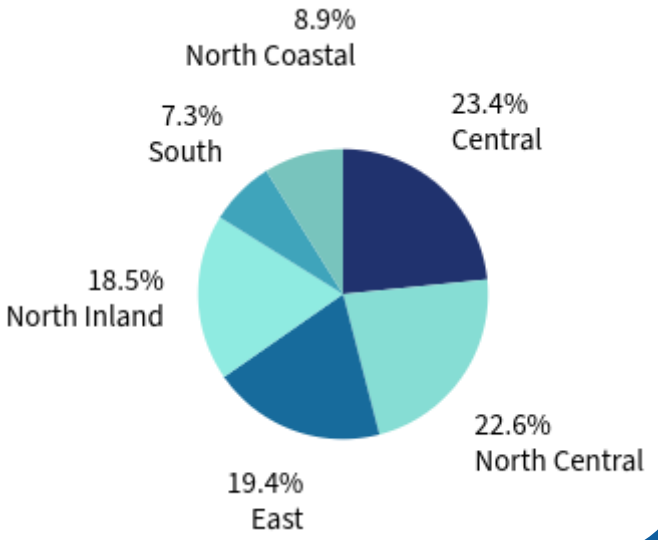
Community Feedback in 2025

- EDGA received **189 public comments** between August 4 and September 5, 2025.
- **45 participants** attended virtual community forum on August 27, 2025.



Participation by HHSA Live Well Region

(reported by zip code, out of 124 respondents)



2026 Behavioral Health Advocacy Report

150+ State BH Bills Tracked	H.R. 1: 8 Bills Supported	Budget Advocacy	Federal Action Letters

Examples Requested

- **MCRT Benefit – Enacted State Budget $42.2 million thru June 30, 2027**
- **Acute Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital Staffing Levels - CDPH**
- **IMD Exclusion – HR 5462 (Goldman) The Michelle Alyssa Go Act**
- **AB 96 (Jackson) Mental Health: Peer Support Specialists Certification**
- **Proposition 36**
- **OMB Proposed Rule Change to Grant Making Process**

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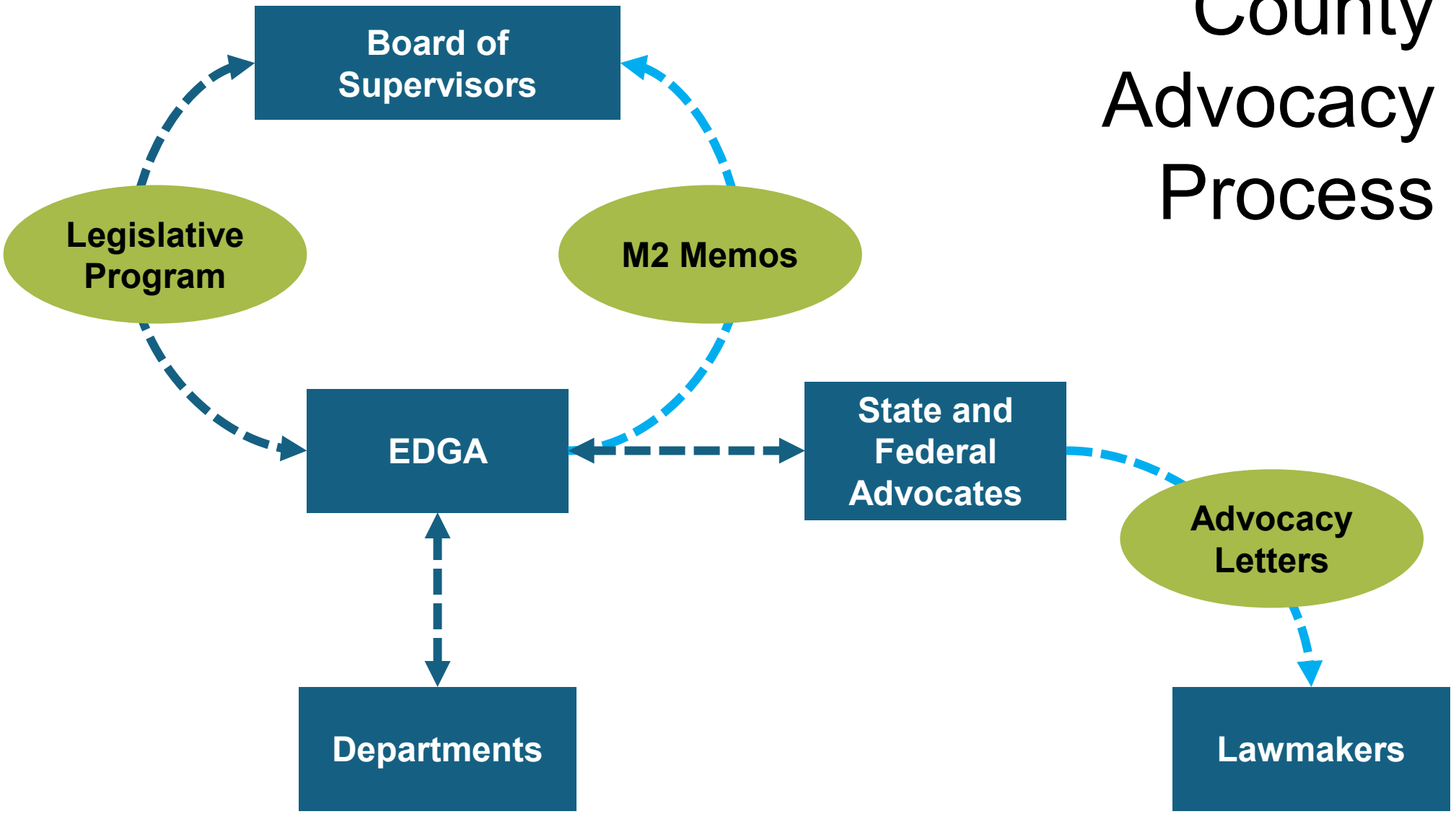
Other Bills Tracking

- Major themes
  - Influence of AI in health care
  - CARE Act
  - Conservatorships
- SB 28 (Umberg) CARE Court Program
- SB 1016 (Blakespear) CARE County Program & Court Evaluations



A - 74
POLICY

County Advocacy Process



Questions?

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END

2026 Priority Issues

- Advancing Housing Solutions
- Bolstering the Behavioral Health System
- Combating Climate Change and Protecting the Environment
- Ensuring Safe Communities
- Reducing Homelessness
- Safeguarding the Social Safety Net
- Responding to the Tijuana River Valley Sewage Crisis

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2025 Advocacy Report

1400+ Bills Tracked	42 Bill Positions	81 Board Memos	15 Federal Action Letters

- **Ensuring Safe Communities**
- **Climate Change and the Environment**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Equitable Access to Health and Social Care**
- **Nutrition Security**

Top 5 Priority Issues addressed in Bill Positions

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