

Memorandum for the Chair, HSAB from the Legislative Subcommittee

Jim, Following our HSAB retreat and our recent discussion I propose the following subcommittee action agenda for 2017 pending your approval. Please let me know of any changes you or the Board would like add or delete. Bob P

- 1. Encourage HHSa staff (with support of the chair) to continue briefing the HSAB on key health issues likely to result in county legislative or political action.** (example: electronic cigarette policy) HSAB support and recommendations on major health policy issues has proven helpful to HHSa legislative advocacy in the past.

- 2. Work with the HHSa staff and the Chair to ensure the HSAB is aware of current County Legislative Policy** by electronically forwarding the following County legislative policy documents annually to HSAB members:
 - Annual San Diego County Legislative Policy Guidelines
 - Annual San Diego County Legislative Program Priorities
 - Annual San Diego County Legislative Sponsorship Proposals

- 3. Provide process assistance should the HSAB vote to recommend the County advocate for specific legislation within the following County BOS policy:**
 - a. **“County citizen committees are created to advise the Board of Supervisors - not the Legislature or Congress,** with the exception of those citizen committees which have been specifically mandated to advise other legislators under the government codes or laws establishing them. When a County citizen committee wishes to make a recommendation on pending legislation to a legislative body other than the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the committee shall submit recommendations or positions on legislation to the Department Head. The Department Head shall submit the committee recommendations to the Office of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs, noting the departmental position, relative to the Committee recommendations. The Office of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs shall inform the Board of Supervisors of the committee’s recommendation or the CAO may place the committee and its recommendation on a future Board of Supervisors agenda.”
 - b. **“If the Board does not agree with the committee and will not forward the recommendations to the appropriate legislative body,** the committee members

may, as individual citizens, contact the legislative body recommending certain actions. Transmittal of recommendations on County letterhead without prior Board approval violates the intent of Board Policy M-2 (Legislative Advocacy). The exception being those citizen committees which have been specifically mandated to advise other legislators under the government codes or laws “

- 4. Periodically (quarterly) update the HSAB on priority legislation listed by the County Health Executive Association of California (CHEAC), an advocacy organization in which the County maintains membership. CHEAC has three current priorities for the 2017-2018 legislative session. ***
- a. Protecting public health resources in an uncertain ACA environment
 - b. Promoting the public health approach to violence prevention
 - c. Educating Californians about the adverse effects of cannabis use

*Note: Many health policy organizations expect the 2017-2018 legislature to focus on regulation of cannabis to compensate for an inadequately written state voter initiative and on decreased opioids addiction which is considered a major statewide issue.