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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

**AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED BY
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ON JANUARY 9, 2007**

January 9, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 2007-08 SESSION
(ALL DISTRICTS AFFECTED) (3 VOTES)**

This letter recommends policies and proposals for the first year of the 2007-08 State Legislative Session. This package, together with other positions adopted by your Board, will guide our State advocacy efforts. They have been developed in coordination with Board Offices, County departments, the Legislative Strategist, and our Sacramento advocates.

THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the updated policies and proposals contained in this letter and Attachment I, which seek to minimize the adverse impact of State actions on the County, achieve greater flexibility over the use of State funds, secure State assistance whenever possible, especially from non-General Fund sources, and promote the growth of the State and local economy.
2. Instruct the Chief Administrative Officer, affected departments, the Legislative Strategist, and our Sacramento advocates to work with the County delegation, other counties and local governments, and interest groups to pursue these policies and proposals.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

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ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK

At the beginning of calendar year 2006, California faced a structural budget deficit estimated to be in the \$4 billion to \$5 billion range with little prospect that the State's economic outlook would improve or that County programs would be able to escape budget reductions. In fact, the Governor's January 2006 Budget proposed substantial funding reductions in CalWORKs Programs and the continued suspension of the State-County Property Tax Administration Program for an estimated loss of \$105 million. Despite a proposal to make partial repayments for deferred mandate claims and FY 2004-05 Proposition 42 transportation loans, while funding Proposition 36 at its current level, the estimated net loss to the County was approximately \$26.2 million.

Between the January Budget proposal and the May Revision, the State revenue picture improved substantially to the tune of \$7.5 billion over the current and budget years, according to the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO). The County's fiscal outlook also improved with the estimated impact increasing to a net gain of \$163.1 million from the projected January loss of \$26.2 million.

As the Governor prepares his State Budget proposals for FY 2007-08, he will confront an economic and fiscal outlook that is both similar and different from the prior January. The outlook is comparable because the State still faces a structural deficit, a shortfall estimated to exceed \$5 billion according to the LAO. The perspective also is different according to the LAO because at this stage of the current economic expansion, the State should be running an operating surplus, although it is unlikely that the State will continue to experience high rates of revenue growth beyond the current year.

The LAO cautions that a sharp decline in the real estate market could slow the State's economy. Home sales and construction activity have fallen by almost 25 percent over the last year and the critical question is whether housing activity is nearing bottom or whether there is more air to be let out of the housing bubble.

The LAO's recently released **California Fiscal Outlook LAO Projections – FY 2006-07 through 2011-12** projects a \$5.5 billion operating shortfall for FY 2007-08. Over the five year forecast period, the LAO anticipates that, under existing law, State budget expenditures will continue to exceed revenues absent corrective actions. In the current year, year-end reserves are expected to increase by approximately \$1 billion, to \$3.1 billion. This carryover could be used on a one-time basis to reduce the projected shortfall in FY 2007-08 to \$2.4 billion, however, that would eliminate any reserves to help mitigate future budget shortfalls.

On the political front, the November 2006 State legislative elections were uneventful. Even with a large incoming class of new members resulting from term limits and retirements, the partisan composition of the two houses remained as it was before the election; the Democrats control the Senate, 25 to 15, and the Assembly, 48 to 32.

BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Even though the State's fiscal outlook has improved over the last two years, it faces potential fiscal stress from the cost of prison overcrowding and healthcare in correctional facilities. Further pressure may result from the Governor's stated goals to eliminate the structural deficit and to make health care affordable for the State's estimated 6 million uninsured. In addition, if housing activity plummets and consumer spending does not keep the economy moving, the \$5.5 billion estimated structural deficit in FY 2007-08 could deteriorate.

In this environment, there will likely be a shortage of funds for new or substantially expanded existing programs. The growth of spending for State programs in health, social services, and corrections, for example, may well exceed inflation, while education funding levels may leave little room for growth in local programs. As the economy of the State and nation is anticipated to slow over the next few years, the amount of State revenue and thus, allocations to local governments are expected to grow much slower than in FY 2005-06.

Faced with these circumstances, the County's focus will be on preservation of both State funding and its fiscal base, working primarily through the budget process. The County will continue its advocacy efforts to ensure the continued stability of its health system, funding for Proposition 36, the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act, property tax administration, adult protective services, child support services, homeless programs, state-local partnership on corrections reform, preservation of local control, and workers' compensation reform. This list may be modified based on the Governor's Proposed Budget, new Board priorities, and other proposals.

County Health System

Hospital Finance: In June 2005, the State reached an agreement with the Federal government on a new five-year Medi-Cal Hospital/Uninsured Care demonstration project waiver. This waiver affects more than \$800 million of the County's annual Medi-Cal revenues. Starting in FY 2007-08, which is year three of the waiver, California will have access to an additional \$180 million annually for a health care coverage initiative to expand coverage options for currently uninsured individuals. The County is eligible to apply for, and, has the potential to receive up to \$54 million under the initiative. **Therefore, the**

County will work to ensure that it receives adequate funding to serve its uninsured residents. In addition, there is concern that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will apply recently enacted Federal Medicaid citizenship requirements to low-income, uninsured applicants seeking health benefits under the Hospital Financing Waiver's Coverage Initiative. **Therefore, the County will support presumptive eligibility for Medi-Cal and Healthy Family applicants awaiting verification of eligibility for disability reasons and of U.S. citizenship.**

Healthcare Reform: Newspaper accounts and Sacramento sources indicate that the reform plan will be based on the principle of "shared responsibility" among government, employers, consumers and healthcare providers, and that the State already has substantial resources which could be redirected to help pay for some of the new efforts, including Federal funding currently allocated to counties and hospitals used to help cover the uninsured. As above, advocacy efforts will focus on ensuring that the County receives adequate funding to serve its uninsured residents. **Therefore, the County will work with the State to preserve its funding, and ensure that any healthcare reform proposals are funded by the State, and accompanied by decision-making authority at the county level to ensure successful implementation.**

Trauma Funding: As part of the FY 2006-07 budget process, the Legislature appropriated \$10 million for trauma care services; however, the Governor deleted the augmentation. Permanent funding of at least \$25 million is necessary to sustain a system that provides care for the most critically injured patients. **Therefore, the County once again will work with a statewide coalition to secure adequate State funding for trauma care in the FY 2007-08 Budget.**

Drug Treatment

Proposition 36: State law requires first time drug offenders to be directed to treatment programs rather than to jail or to prison. Funding under the initial grant ended in FY 2005-06, and the State provided \$120 million in base level funding for a program whose Statewide needs have expanded to over \$200 million annually. For Los Angeles County, the amount of base funding for FY 2006-07 is \$30 million. The funding necessary to fully treat all Proposition 36 clients in the County is estimated to be \$46.1 million.

The State also appropriated \$25 million in supplemental funds in support of Proposition 36 to be used for enhancements to the program. The County applied for these funds and received \$7.9 million. This leaves the County with an estimated shortfall of \$8.2 million in FY 2006-07. **Therefore, the County will seek or support proposals for full State funding for Proposition 36 programs.**

State-Local Partnership on Correctional issues

State prisons and county detention facilities are inextricably linked since all State prisoners are incarcerated in county jails at some point. Thus, it is important that the Governor and the Legislature focus on the entire corrections system to address the problem of severe overcrowding in both State and local adult and juvenile facilities and early release of criminals from jails. In addition to addressing facility needs, it is also necessary to more intensively supervise the offender population that is at risk of becoming the next wave of incarcerated individuals. The two systems should be eliminating dangerous overcrowded conditions in a uniform and consistent manner by evaluating all aspects of the corrections system.

Last year's Special Session focused on prison overcrowding as primarily a State issue. Your Board, however, recommended that the Special Session should be expanded to explore the potential benefits of a State-local partnership to enhance programs at the County level that have reduced State and local detention populations and recidivism. It adopted a number of recommendations to bring the partnership to fruition and directed the County's Sacramento advocates to pursue an expansion of the scope of issues to be considered in the Special Session. While the Special Session did not produce any legislation, pursuit of the partnership was to be added to the County's State Legislative Agenda for FY 2007-08. The recommendations are as follows:

Adult Probation Funding: The State currently provides funding for juvenile probationers through the Schiff-Cardenas Juvenile Justice Grants. Due in part to this funding, the County now sends fewer juveniles to State facilities. Comparable State funding should be directed toward adult offenders and other high risk individuals who are likely to commit future crimes. Under this concept, the County could use these funds for increased supervision, additional treatment services, and aid in the successful completion of probation. In addition, services could be provided to assist the offender to avoid subsequent criminal activities that could lead to incarceration in State or local level facilities. **Therefore, the County will seek funding for adult probation programs to reduce recidivism in the local and State criminal justice system.**

Full Funding of County Costs to House State Inmates: The County houses State inmates returning to State prison due either to a parole violation or through the commission of a new crime. The State currently reimburses the County \$71.57 per day to house State inmates and our estimated revenues are \$17.3 million annually. The Auditor Controller has calculated the County's actual cost to be \$83.50 per day. If the State were to fund our actual cost, it would provide the County with an additional \$2.9 million for a total of \$20.2 million annually. **Therefore, the County will seek funding to allow it to fully recover its costs under the program.**

Funding for County Adult Detention Facilities: Additional funding for the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of County detention facilities would benefit the State and local governments by ensuring appropriate beds for each type of inmate, providing sufficient space for programs intended to assist the inmate in successfully completing probation, and avoiding further criminal activities and further incarceration at County or State facilities and early release of County inmates. **Therefore, the County will seek funding for the construction, expansion, renovation, replacement or reconstruction of County jail facilities.**

Authorization for Involuntary Electronic Monitoring: This would authorize a county experiencing jail overcrowding to involuntarily place low level offenders on electronic monitoring. It would allow for the selective retention of higher level offenders in jail and mitigate the impact of the need to provide early releases of convicted offenders from County facilities. Currently, participation in this program is voluntary. **Therefore, the County will seek authority for the involuntary placement of low level offenders on electronic monitoring.**

General Government

Property Tax Administration Program: As part of the FY 2005-06 Budget agreement, the Governor and the Legislature suspended the State-County Property Tax Administration Program (PTAP) which provided \$60 million annually for counties. The two-year loss to the County was \$27 million. This program was highly successful, and the revenue it generated more than recovered the costs of the program. According to the California Assessors' Association, between 1996 and 2004, the State granted counties \$455 million for this program which generated an estimated \$5.64 billion for the State. It is in the State's financial interest to continue the program, because the State General Fund is its largest beneficiary. **Therefore, the County will support efforts to restore State funding for this purpose, and will advocate for the funding to be permanently restored.**

Protective Activities

Adult Protective Services (APS): APS is a State-mandated program, which provides investigation, crisis intervention and short-term case management services on behalf of elders and dependent adults who are victims of physical or financial abuse, neglect, abandonment, isolation, or who are unable to protect their own interests. Funding for the APS Program has not increased despite increased reports of elder and dependent adult abuse, steadily increasing caseloads, and an elderly population that is expected to increase dramatically over the next few years. Growth in the APS caseload within a capped funding allocation has resulted in a decrease in services to abused and neglected

elders and dependent adults. **Therefore, the County will support increased State funding for the APS Program to increase investigation of reports of abuse and neglect, and to provide appropriate and comprehensive services for dependent adults, and abused and neglected elders.**

Child Support Services: The Child Support Program is a joint Federal/State effort that seeks to promote parental responsibility and family self-sufficiency and to reduce public assistance costs. In California, the program is administered by counties under State supervision. Under the recently enacted Deficit Reduction Act (DRA), the use of Federal incentive funds as a match to draw down additional Federal funds will be prohibited starting in October 2007. The new DRA requirement will result in fewer resources to establish and enforce child support orders, which would result in lower child support collections. It is estimated that the State could lose approximately \$100 million in Federal matching incentive funds in FY 2007-08 when the change in law takes effect. The County's Federal Legislative Agenda contains policy urging Congress to restore the Federal incentive match. **Therefore, the County will advocate for the State to preserve funding for this program.**

Homeless Programs: Homelessness is a major problem in Los Angeles County where approximately 88,000 persons are homeless on any given night. This includes over 34,000 persons in families. According to the 2005 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, an estimated 221,363 persons in Los Angeles County were homeless at some point during the year.

On April 4, 2006, your Board approved \$100 million in County General Funds for the County Homeless Prevention Initiative to secure adequate housing for the homeless, establish multi-disciplinary and interdepartmental stabilization centers as an alternative to the arrest of the homeless for minor offenses, a Skid Row Homeless Family Access Center to connect homeless families to services and housing, and among many other programs, a Prototype Court to handle felony cases in which the offender has co-existing and persistent mental illness or drug dependence.

A number of bills related to homelessness were introduced in the State Legislature in 2006. Many of these bills failed passage, however, legislation was enacted to prohibit hospitals from transferring homeless patients from one county to another, and to increase sentences for persons convicted of drug trafficking within 1,000 feet of a drug treatment center or homeless shelter. In addition, the Social Services Budget Trailer Bill (AB 1808) included most of the provisions in County-sponsored AB 2961 which provides enhanced benefits for CalWORKs families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. A provision that was not included would have provided time-limited rental subsidies for certain qualified CalWORKs families on permanent housing assistance for whom housing instability is a

barrier to employment. **Therefore, the County will sponsor or support legislation to enhance the CalWORKS Homeless and Housing Assistance Program to create these time-limited subsidies.**

In addition, many uninsured, mentally disabled homeless adults are eligible to receive SSI and Medi-Cal benefits but do not because of administrative barriers related to eligibility determination. One such barrier is an inability to procure the necessary medical documentation to substantiate the mental disability necessary to confirm SSI eligibility. This causes many mentally disabled homeless adults to go without critical services and benefits necessary to stabilize their lives. **Therefore, the County will sponsor or support legislation that would make transitional medical coverage available for uninsured chronically homeless adults with a mental health disability who would likely be determined disabled and qualify for SSI.**

Preservation of Local Control

Infrastructure Bonds: Of the 13 Statewide initiatives included in the November 7, 2006 General Election ballot, voters approved four initiatives which present the County with a number of significant opportunities to receive, or compete for, funding for transportation improvements (Proposition 1B), housing projects (Proposition 1C), disaster preparedness and flood prevention projects (Proposition 1E), and water quality, natural resources protection, and park improvement projects (Proposition 84). While approval of the initiatives will authorize \$42.7 billion in State General Obligation bonds for the specified purposes, some of the funds will become available through the State's budget process, through competitive grants, or formula allocations. This process could potentially pit local governments and other agencies against each other for the same funds. Within counties, departments may find themselves applying for funds sought by other county departments.

The County's Infrastructure Task Force will develop a Strategic Plan pursuant to the Board's direction at the meeting of December 5, 2006. The Plan will include principles and policies which seek to maximize funding for County projects through the competitive grant process, support legislation which will ensure that the County receives its fair share of per capita grants and formula allocations, and promote coordination and cooperation among departments in the pursuit of funding. **In addition, the County will work with other counties and affected associations and interest groups in pursuit of these general principles and those developed by the Task Force, and seek flexibility over the use of funds.**

Redevelopment: The rejection of Proposition 90 by the voters in the November 2006 election is not likely to decrease legislative efforts to cope with the issue of eminent domain and redevelopment. The County will continue to support the redevelopment reforms accomplished in AB 1290, which was passed in 1993. Among its many provisions, it attempted to narrow the definition of blight, thereby reducing the authority to use eminent domain. **Therefore, the County will continue to work with the Legislature to further the reforms of AB 1290 by tightening the definitions of blight, limiting the use of eminent domain in non-blighted areas, and requiring a finding of blight for projects where an agency seeks to reinstate or extend the time limit for the use of eminent domain.**

Workers' Compensation

Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed a County-opposed workers' compensation bill, which would have increased County costs for payments to employees receiving permanent disability benefits. In addition, a second bill, which would have allowed peace officers to seek treatment for work related injuries outside of the employer approved physician network, died in the Senate. It is likely that similar bills, or variations thereof, will be introduced in 2007. **Therefore, the County will continue to support workers' compensation reforms that prevent abuses of the system and oppose legislation that weakens the workers' compensation reforms already enacted.**

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The proposed policies and proposals in this State Legislative Agenda are consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goals, specifically, Organizational Effectiveness and Fiscal Responsibility. Adoption of the proposed revisions and additions to the Agenda will allow the CAO and the County's Sacramento advocates to respond quickly to proposals that significantly affect the County, such as cuts in program funding or new mandates on county government. In addition, adoption will allow pursuit of legislation and support of specific proposals that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of County services.

Each Supervisor
January 9, 2007
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CONCLUSION

The recommended policies contained in this letter and in Attachment I are submitted for your Board's consideration as the guiding principles for our advocacy efforts in Sacramento during the first year of the 2007-08 Legislative Session. Attachment II provides a list of County sponsorship bills, all of which are the result of Board motions. Therefore the list is for your information only. The policies and proposals contained in this package are in addition to, and are not intended to be exclusive of, other positions your Board may adopt. As in the past, the Legislative Agenda will be updated to reflect subsequent Board actions.

Respectfully submitted,



DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

DEJ:GK
MAL:hg

Attachments

c: County Counsel
All Department Heads

RECOMMENDED STATE LEGISLATIVE POLICIES ADDRESSING ISSUES OF
MAJOR COUNTY INTEREST

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1. Children and Families

1.1 Child Welfare Services

1. Support increased funding for family preservation programs.
2. Support legislation to maintain the full Child Welfare Services allocation independent of actual caseload for up to five years to cover the increased costs of implementing new programs to improve outcomes for children by allowing them to remain safely at home, shorten their length of stay in care and reduce re-abuse.
3. Support proposals to ensure full funding for the Child Welfare Services program, including increased funding to cover all mandated services, pursuant to the SB 2030 Workload Study and the fully loaded costs of a social worker.
4. Oppose proposals that would reduce protections for child welfare workers in the legitimate exercise of their discretion in the performance of their duties, thereby increasing liability to the County.
5. Oppose unfunded mandates that do not enhance child safety or expedited permanence.
6. Support proposals to enhance adoptions by increasing funding for adoption activities and post-adoption services, and expanding to out-of-state private adoption agencies the payments currently authorized to California private adoption agencies for the unreimbursed costs of placing children for adoption.
7. Support funding of forensic medical examinations in child abuse cases.
8. Support funding for parenting programs aimed at teens and child care services for teen parents.
9. Support legislation that increases funding for the use of family group conferencing and team decision-making to develop an individualized plan for the care of each child.
10. Support legislation to clarify that agencies providing services to a family may share case information.
11. Support legislation to streamline Dependency Court procedures while ensuring the safety and best interests of children.
12. Support proposals that simplify the Welfare and Institutions Code statutes regarding notice of dependency hearings.
13. Support proposals that enhance collaboration between child welfare and law enforcement agencies.

14. Support proposals to clarify and provide for social workers' access to dependent children's medical, counseling, and education records.
15. Support proposals to fund Child Welfare Services outcome improvements included in the County's Self-Improvement Plan (SIP), including Point of Engagement, the State's AB 636 Outcomes and Accountability System and the Federal Children and Family Services Review (CFSR).

1.2 Child Welfare Services – Foster Care

1. Support continued eligibility of immigrant foster children for Medi-Cal and Foster Care funds.
2. Support proposals to increase appropriate foster care resources by funding targeted recruitment, review of existing foster care payment rates to ensure equity and appropriateness, and professionalizing foster parenting.
3. Support State reimbursement for the placement of dependent children who are eligible for regional center services, in for-profit group homes, when an appropriate not-for-profit facility is unavailable.
4. Support proposals that would allow counties to secure increased Federal funds for foster care and other services provided to abused and neglected children at no increased net cost to the State General Fund.
5. Support legislation and funding to allow the California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division and local government to make unannounced visits to Foster Family Agency (FFA) certified homes.
6. Support efforts which enhance legal permanency for children in foster care by promoting kinship adoption, enhancing KinGAP and supporting subsidized legal guardianship without requiring the full array of ongoing court and Child Welfare Services.
7. Support legislation and funding to facilitate successful emancipation, promote self-sufficiency and improve opportunities for youth aging out of foster care.
8. Support proposals which allow the sharing of information concerning family homes certified by foster family agencies to prevent the licensure, approval and/or re-certification of previously de-certified homes.
9. Support proposals to simplify foster care program eligibility requirements.
10. Support proposals to enhance permanency for children by streamlining and consolidating the separate studies and criminal clearances that must be administered to a caregiver for licensure, approval, and adoption.

11. Support proposals and funding to ensure that the educational system appropriately meets the educational needs of children in foster care, including improved monitoring of non-public schools.
12. Support proposals that provide and fund substance abuse treatment services for children and parents in the Child Welfare Services system.
13. Support proposals to shorten the timeframes to achieve permanence including expanding the court's authority to expedite permanency by limiting reunification services on all children if the parent has failed to participate regularly and make substantive progress in the case plan.
14. Support proposals which allow flexibility in the use of funds to provide services to families and caregivers to strengthen their parenting abilities and prevent the need for placement, shorten the length of stay and reduce re-abuse.
15. Support funding for proposals that would expand searches for relatives, provide technical assistance and training so that permanent, lifelong connections for children and youth of all ages can be achieved.
16. Support proposals that achieve permanency for previously adopted children who have returned to the foster care system as a result of an adoption disruption or the death or incapacitation of an adoptive parent.

1.3 Child Care and Child Development

1. Support efforts to develop and implement a master plan for quality early care and education that sets high standards for all such services, and addresses the needs of all children, from birth through age 12, including those with special needs up to age 18 and children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Such efforts should also encompass goals for the development and sustainability of a professional workforce and early learning standards that build upon established foundations for early childhood education research and practice.
2. Support efforts to ensure the health and safety of all children cared for in licensed early care and education facilities by increasing monitoring and visitation activities from the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division, increasing provider education, training, and access to health insurance, and basing program design on strong and rigorous research evidence.
3. Support efforts to increase Standardized Reimbursement Rates and other revenue streams, tax credits and other incentives, to provide all children, including from low- to moderate-income families with a need for child care and development services, universal access to sustainable, high-quality early care and education services, inclusive of children with special needs, and effectively integrate new resources into the existing early care and education infrastructure.

4. Support efforts to increase access to integrated, high-quality early care and education services that are simple for families to utilize and meet their needs, efficient for agencies to administer, and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect. Such efforts encompass facility development, renovation, and maintenance; affordable family fees that do not exceed eight percent of gross family income; full-day, full-year programs; cultural and linguistic diversity; and recognition of disabilities and other special needs.
5. Support efforts to expand and improve early care and education services by including such services in all city and county planning processes for land use and zoning, transportation, housing, and economic, workforce, and community development.
6. Support efforts to ensure that California Work, Opportunity, and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) clients have access to consistent, uninterrupted early care and education services, including Stage 3 Child Care, in order to comply with their work requirements. Also, support efforts to ensure that these services are available, regardless of Federal welfare time limits.
7. Support local flexibility and efforts to simplify the administration of CalWORKs Child Care and enable early care and education providers to secure multi-year funding contracts with the California Department of Education.
8. Support proposals designed to prevent and detect fraud in State-subsidized child care programs.
9. Support proposals that improve child care quality by promoting annual cost-of-living adjustments to child care development programs, adjust the State Median Income limits annually for subsidized child care, adjust the Regional Market Rate ceilings annually to more accurately reflect current market conditions, link reimbursement rates for subsidized child care to the quality of care, and provide funding to maintain centralized eligibility lists.
10. Oppose proposals that would disproportionately reduce subsidized child care rates to providers serving primarily low-income communities.

2. Environment, Natural Resources and Recreation

2.1 Air Quality

1. Support funding to assist local government to purchase and/or convert vehicle fleets to alternative fuels to improve air quality.
2. Support funding to assist local government compliance with existing and pending regulations to reduce emissions from both mobile and fixed sources.

3. Support measures to develop and increase the availability and use of alternative fuels, and retrofit of existing generators and fleets.
4. Oppose cuts in assistance to local government fuel emission reduction programs.
5. Support measures that promote the development of cleaner burning fuels and other feasible technologies that help meet Federal and State air quality standards.
6. Support measures that allow for innovation and local flexibility in developing, maintaining, and expanding cost-effective programs that increase vehicle ridership.
7. Support legislation that provides increased funding for the reduction of particulate matter emissions from on-road diesel vehicles, independent of Nitrous Oxide emissions.
8. Support proposals that provide authority to local and regional agencies to reduce locomotive, railyard, port, and mobile source emissions.
9. Support proposals that return a greater share of funds to local areas which generate AB 2766 revenues, and provide greater flexibility to local programs to comply with air quality rules and regulations.

2.2 Beaches

1. Support measures that provide funding for beach erosion and accretion monitoring and for beach sand replenishment, including full funding of the Public Beach Restoration Act of 1999 (AB 64).
2. Support funding to maintain clean beaches and improve the water quality of coastal waters, estuaries, bays and near shore waters.
3. Support funding for construction of restrooms, parking lots, accessways, lifeguard and maintenance facilities, landscaping and other infrastructure on public beaches.
4. Support the inclusion of beaches in the definition of parks for the purpose of qualifying for park funding programs, if the beaches are in densely populated urban areas and are used by large numbers of residents as if they were an urban park.
5. Oppose legislation to provide the Coastal Commission additional discretion in approving permits for construction of seawalls, revetments, breakwaters, groins, harbor channels, or similar structures.

6. Oppose legislation to establish an off-leash dog beach in Los Angeles County unless it provides for State indemnification of the County and an appropriation to fund all additional County costs associated with an off-leash dog beach program.

2.3 Environmental Protection and Open Space

1. Support increased funding for environmental protection programs and capital projects, including resource, open space, and shoreline protection, as well as Santa Monica Bay and beach restoration.
2. Support establishment of a Statewide endowment fund to protect, restore and maintain natural resource areas, greenways, riparian corridors, and trails.
3. Support funding for the control, removal and/or eradication of invasive species that negatively affect natural landscape and open space areas.
4. Support legislation to promote environmentally friendly programs that address reasonable protection of resources such as pesticide use, care of trees, ecological systems and open space, and use of gray and reclaimed water.
5. Support measures which, consistent with Board-adopted policies, promote the preservation and restoration of Los Angeles County mountain, bay, watershed, river and wetland areas.
6. Support legislation that provides property tax credit for the recording of open space and conservation easements on property.
7. Support legislation to collect a fee of up to \$6 upon the annual registration or renewal of motor vehicle registrations to fund projects and grants that prevent, reduce, remediate, or mitigate the adverse environmental effects of motor vehicles and their associated facilities and other infrastructure improvement projects.
8. Support legislation that would exempt routine maintenance and operation of existing publicly owned facilities from Regional Board permits and Streambed Alteration Agreements.

2.4 Parks

1. Support funding for acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of parks and recreation facilities and open space, and seek additional funding for the establishment of new urban parks in the underserved areas of the County.
2. Support ongoing funding of local agencies for the operation and maintenance of parks and open space areas, such as Castaic Lake State Recreation Area, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, and Placerita Canyon State Recreation Area.

3. Support funding and partnering opportunities with social service agencies and schools for youth programs, services, and facilities that incorporate positive recreation alternatives and that provide employment opportunities for youth.
4. Support legislation that promotes innovative programs that provide alternatives to gang activity and encourage the employment of at-risk youth.
5. Support funding or partnering opportunities with social service and health agencies to promote healthy activities and exercise programs in parks for youth and adults.
6. Support funding for after-school programs in park facilities and schools operated by parks and recreation agencies.
7. Support proposals which promote partnering opportunities with social and health service agencies and allow park and recreation programs to be eligible for State preventive health funding.
8. Support funding for the urban reforestation programs of the California Division of Forestry.
9. Support funding of State mandated fingerprinting of all park staff and volunteers responsible for supervision of minors.
10. Oppose legislation that would increase exposure to, or reduce immunities from, governmental liability related to the ownership, construction, operation or maintenance of recreational facilities.

2.5 Watershed Management and Flood Control

1. Support funding for demonstration grants for projects that link watershed management, environmental restoration, recreation, open space and beach improvements.
2. Support proposals which promote environmentally-friendly flood control improvements and projects, and do not diminish the performance of flood control systems.
3. Oppose legislation that would grant cities the authority to set waste discharge standards for separate municipal sewer systems.
4. Support legislation to allow counties and other public agencies to adopt stormwater fees, upon voter approval, to adequately fund clean water programs.
5. Support proposals that provide public agencies and special districts with immunities from liability to encourage development of multi-use watershed management, environmental restoration, open space, and recreation projects within flood protection and water conservation facilities.

6. Support proposals that incorporate the principles of the "Safe Harbor Program," as established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, into the State Department of Fish and Game's Streambed Alteration Agreement for the development of watershed management and water quality enhancement projects.
7. Support funding for river and stream education and interpretive facilities, such as the San Gabriel River Discovery Center at Whittier Narrows Regional Park.
8. Support proposals that promote a share Federal, State and local funding formula to pay for implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load and other stormwater requirements.
9. Support legislation funding the planning, operation, and maintenance of watershed or multi-use projects.
10. Support authorization and funding for the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) Project, as required by AB 1147.

2.6 Water Supply

1. Support funding for counties and other local agencies to treat groundwater for the removal of arsenic to meet United States Environmental Protection Agency and California Department of Health Services standards.
2. Support funding to implement the most aggressive level of carcinogen removal from Los Angeles County Water Works District drinking water.
3. Support legislation to improve the reliability of water imported into Los Angeles County.
4. Support legislation to encourage water conservation and increase the efficiency of water use.
5. Oppose legislation that would create unrealistic requirements that impede the construction of water facilities in improved and developed areas.
6. Support funding for the design and construction of a recycled water system for the Antelope Valley to reduce reliance on imported water and improve water supply reliability.
7. Support legislation that would promote groundwater banking programs and facilitate the regulatory approval process required for implementation of groundwater banking programs.
8. Support State legislation that is directed at increasing the use of recycled water within Los Angeles County.

3. General Government

3.1 Retirement, Compensation and Benefits, and Workers' Compensation

1. Sponsor or support local option legislation to implement employee compensation or benefit changes, as directed by the Board of Supervisors.
2. Oppose legislation that mandates or authorizes compensation or benefit changes without approval of the Board of Supervisors.
3. Oppose legislation which would remove the Board of Supervisors' control over benefit increases or decreases in the Los Angeles County Retirement System that increase the County's cost.
4. Support legislation that promotes the timely provision of reasonable and necessary medical care while opposing legislation that erodes the medical reforms accomplished by the 2003-04 session workers' compensation reform legislation.
5. Support workers' compensation reform proposals that align public sector workers' compensation benefits with private sector benefits to the greatest extent practical.
6. Oppose legislation that mandates eligibility of additional employees for safety workers' compensation benefits or safety retirement benefit provisions.
7. Oppose legislation that expands existing or creates new presumptions related to injuries, illnesses, diseases, or physical conditions and that can be claimed as job-related for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement.
8. Oppose legislation that eliminates current requirements that employees demonstrate on-the-job exposure in order to qualify for workers' compensation or service-connected disability retirement benefits.
9. Support proposals to clarify the rights and responsibilities of the County to pay Advanced Disability Pension Benefits to safety members to ensure that all appropriate County costs are reimbursed.
10. Support legislation that funds the Public Interest Attorney Loan Repayment Program which assists in the recruitment of public defenders and prosecutors, or any other student loan repayment assistance or forgiveness legislation which benefits public defenders and prosecutors.
11. Support legislation intended to eliminate billing fraud in the workers' compensation system.

3.2 Land Use Planning

1. Oppose legislation that infringes upon county board of supervisors' local land use decision-making authority.
2. Support the imposition of liens on non owner-occupied properties to recover costs associated with code compliance enforcement.
3. Oppose legislation that imposes financial penalties on local governments for implementing zoning regulations that reduce the value of affected private properties. Such regulations may include changes of zone and the application of new development standards to private properties.
4. Oppose legislation which prohibits local governments from applying certain zoning regulations to certain categories of land uses, such as the State's requirement that local jurisdictions may not require a discretionary zoning permit for community care facilities and certain classes of child care facilities.
5. Support legislation and policy that promotes the development of housing sites near public transit hubs, promotes the development of housing in urban centers rather than suburbs to decrease sprawl, or promotes urban design that encourages safe walking routes to commercial districts and schools if financed by a mutually agreed upon funding mechanism.
6. Support legislation that would correct inequities in the Coastal Act which currently require that coastal county approvals of coastal development permits for uses that are not the "principal permitted use" specified for a county zone, be subject to appeals to the California Coastal Commission, but do not require the same of similarly approved coastal development approvals by coastal cities.
7. Support legislation which subjects "sober-living" homes to local zoning regulations.

3.3 Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures

1. Support increases in State and industry funding for pest detection, exclusion, and eradication including the red imported fire ant, the Preventive (sterile) Release Program for Mediterranean Fruit Fly, and inspection of nursery plants and products.
2. Support an increase in State and industry funding to improve the program to inspect and certify farmers' markets, and to effectively regulate producers participating in certified farmers' markets.
3. Support increased funding for the management of established pests, including invasive weeds, insects and vertebrates, and research to develop resistant plant varieties for established diseases such as Pierce's Disease and Sudden Oak Death.

4. Support increased funding to regulate economic poisons (pesticides) to protect food and fiber crops, and ornamental landscape to ensure the safety of workers and the public, and the quality of the environment.
5. Support proposals which strengthen the compliance of the structural fumigation industry in the safe handling of registered fumigants, and promote the safe use and handling of pesticides among workers and the general public.
6. Support proposals that increase the allocation of unclaimed refunded gas tax revenues generated from farming and horticultural activities to counties for use by county Agricultural Commissioners to support regulatory oversight of agricultural producers and to enhance local programs related to agriculture.
7. Oppose legislation that impedes the control of rodents, invasive species, and enforcement of pesticide use laws and regulations.

3.4 Consumer Protection

1. Support legislation to protect consumers by providing increased and more reliable product quantity and price information to facilitate value comparisons in sales of any commodity sold by weight, measure or count.
2. Support legislation to exempt weights and measures regulatory vehicles from hazardous materials regulations, provided such vehicles do not enter public roadways when carrying such materials.
3. Support legislation to prohibit products recalled or banned by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission from being resold in thrift shops and/or used in child care facilities.
4. Support proposals which allow for the County's full recovery of costs related to enforcement of laws governing commercial weighing and measuring device accuracy, packaging and sales of commodities, the quality of motor vehicle fuels, and the accuracy of prices charged in retail transactions.
5. Support proposals to extend, or eliminate, the sunset date for the existing authority of the County Sealer to file administrative civil penalties against persons who violate Division 5, pertaining to Weights and Measures, of the Business and Professions Code.
6. Support proposals that provide funding to the County Sealer for inspections of recycling centers to ensure citizens receive full value for their redeemed beverage containers.
7. Support proposals that promote effective price verification inspections by enhancing funding and encouraging investigations focusing on problem pricing areas and practices.

8. Support proposals that maintain or increase funding for the Dispute Resolution Program.
9. Support local governments' right to adopt local consumer protection standards and enforcement mechanisms.

3.5 Animal Care and Control

1. Support legislation to reimburse local governments for the cost of complying with State regulations regarding the impoundment, treatment, care and housing of all stray and owner-surrendered domestic animals at public animal shelters.

3.6 Child Support Administration

1. Support legislation to allow counties to relinquish all responsibility for the local child support program to the State.
2. Support full funding of county child support collection program costs.
3. Counties should be held harmless for any error or omission on the part of the State, including failure to meet collection standards.
4. Oppose proposals to hold counties responsible for paying Federal penalties.
5. Support the use of the County's automated system Statewide or as part of an alternative system that would more quickly meet Federal requirements.
6. Support counties' participation in the development of performance standards for child support enforcement.

3.7 County Investment Practices

1. Support measures which propose reasonable changes to local investment practices to protect public funds, and oppose measures which unnecessarily restrict the ability of local agencies to invest prudently and optimize investment returns.
2. Oppose measures which repeal the authority of counties to issue bond financing or other debt when viable and feasible, or which limit counties' ability to issue debt to refund outstanding bonds to reduce the cost of borrowing.

3.8 Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)

1. Support legislation that ensures the revenue neutrality of local reorganizations provided that it:

Does not change statutes covering LAFCO proceedings regarding special reorganizations filed before January 1, 2000.

Is not retroactive to incorporations that took place before the effective date of the legislation enacting the change.

Ensures that one element of the cost of services to be assumed by the incorporating entity shall be the cost of those services provided within the area by the State of California which will, subsequent to incorporation, be provided by the incorporating entity.

Ensures that the State of California will maintain revenue neutrality by transferring to the incorporating entity ongoing State revenue equal to the State's prior cost of providing those services.

Does not increase the duties and responsibilities of LAFCOs or dictate expenditures for services without providing reimbursement through fees or from State sources.

Provides that in calculating the cost of service responsibilities being transferred in a reorganization, the LAFCO shall not consider those services funded from sources that were voter-approved or that, if re-enacted, would be subject to the provisions of Articles XIII C and D of the State Constitution.

Does not increase the fiscal liability of the County in annexations and incorporations.

2. Oppose legislation that requires LAFCOs to review and make recommendations on urban expansion projects in outlying areas for efficient and adequate extensions of urban level infrastructure and services.

3.9 Historic Preservation

1. Support legislation for the funding and development of the El Pueblo Cultural and Performing Arts Center on the County-owned properties known as the Antique Block.
2. Support funding for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of historical areas under County ownership or control, such as the Queen Anne's Cottage, the Boddy House, Tesoro Adobe, Hugo Reid Adobe, and the William S. Hart House.

3.10 Human Relations

1. Support legislation that addresses and combats discrimination based on age, disability, gender identity, language, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or other protected characteristics.
2. Support legislation to reduce hate crimes, increase human relations education and training, and increase communities' capacity to address intergroup relations issues in a positive way.

3.11 Library Services

1. Support budget actions which would fully fund the Public Library Foundation (PLF) Program as provided in existing law; and oppose reductions in the current PLF funding level.
2. Support actions to restore library district property taxes.
3. Support proposals that provide State bond financing for public library construction and renovation.
4. Support maintenance of funding for the Transaction Based Reimbursement (TBR) program administered by the California State Library to implement universal borrowing in California, and oppose actions which would reduce the current TBR funding level.
5. Support legislation that would dedicate one-half of 1% of Proposition 98 monies to public libraries.
6. Support maintenance of the California Teleconnect Fund (CTF) and oppose measures that link CTF discounts to participation in the Federal E-rate discount program.
7. Support continuation of the county library exemption from any extension of the negotiated local government tax shift in 2005, and oppose actions that would negate the exemption and/or reduce or eliminate protection of local government's property taxes.

3.12 Museums and Performing Arts

1. Support measures which provide increased State funding for the arts and museums, including construction/renovation of regional cultural facilities.
2. Support funding for the Grand Avenue realignment project.

3.13 Education

1. Support funding for school crossing guards provided by counties.
2. Support legislation to require school districts to establish a process in which the parent or guardian of a student commits in a written agreement or compact to assist and cooperate in the education of that student.
3. Support funding for the California Department of Education's Arts Work Grant Program.
4. Support funding for the California Subject Matter Projects, which includes the California Arts Projects.
5. Support proposals which would expand the role of arts education in public schools through the inclusion of arts as a core subject, the development of arts textbooks, and an increase in arts educators.
6. Support proposals that allocate special education funds in a manner that accurately reflects the needs of children in the County.
7. Support proposals to maintain or increase State funding for arts education.
8. Support proposals which address the accountability of school districts in developing, implementing and evaluating arts education.

3.14 Public Records

1. Oppose legislation that imposes unreasonable burdens or creates unfunded mandates to provide access to records, information managed and maintained by County agencies.
2. Support legislation that makes the economic disclosure and conflict of interest provisions of the Political Reform Act more efficient and less burdensome to administer, while furthering the purposes of the Act.
3. Support legislation that will provide State funding for the development of County Records Management and Archival Programs.

3.15 Redevelopment

1. Support legislation which continues or extends the redevelopment law reforms accomplished in AB 1290, and oppose any redevelopment legislation which would cause the County to lose revenues or which would limit or repeal the provisions of AB 1290.
2. Support measures to strengthen the blight findings requirement to prevent redevelopment abuse.

3. Support proposals to increase the statutory pass-through for taxing entities to make redevelopment more self-financing, or alternatively, provide counties with the authority to negotiate pass-through agreements with cities and redevelopment agencies on new (AB 1290) projects.
4. Support extension of review periods to allow counties and other affected parties adequate time to analyze the validity and impact of proposed redevelopment projects.
5. Support measures to close loopholes that allow agencies to extend the life of projects beyond the statutory time frames established in AB 1290.
6. Support legislation that will provide State funding for rehabilitation of "main street" business districts.
7. Support legislation that will preserve, expand and extend designations for the State Enterprise Zone program for urban areas and will protect the County's fiscal base and revenues.

3.16 Elections and Voting

1. Support legislation to provide counties greater flexibility in determining precinct sizes.
2. Support legislation to require disclosure of the payer for telephone campaign messages.
3. Support proposals to provide County reimbursement for the costs incurred in conducting special elections to fill vacancies in State and Federal offices.

4. Health

4.1 Financing of the Safety Net

1. Support, through a coalition with other counties and providers, a dependable, long-term funding source for the health care safety net.
2. Support additional reductions in, or elimination of, the Disproportionate Share Hospital Administrative fee.
3. Support legislation that promotes the fair and equitable distribution of Disproportionate Share Hospital dollars between public and private hospitals.
4. Support proposals to phase-in a State match to fund intergovernmental transfers (IGTs) for the SB 855 and SB 1255 programs.

5. Encourage the State to use its share of Proposition 10 funds or other sources to backfill any losses to the Tobacco Tax's Proposition 99 California Healthcare for Indigents Program (CHIP) fund.
6. Support legislative or administrative changes to allow the Department of Health Services access to financial information records of patients (e.g., State Franchise Tax Board, Department of Motor Vehicles, etc.) which would facilitate identification and verification of patient financial resources.
7. Support legislation to permit counties to assert and collect on liens for health care costs of patients who receive a monetary award from a lawsuit settlement or compromise rather than from a judgment.
8. Support proposals to expand the use of intergovernmental transfers, health provider fees, and other allowable methods to increase net Federal Medicaid and SCHIP matching payments to California and health providers like the County at no cost to the State General Fund.
9. Support the use of State capital improvement funds, currently limited to hospitals, for the construction of clinics and other public health facilities.
10. Support assistance to hospitals to meet the SB 1953 seismic safety requirements.
11. Support proposals to provide SB 1732 funding for County health facilities while preserving the option to expand a project's scope at the County's discretion.
12. Support funding to promote/market the availability of County health care services.
13. Support funding for technology infrastructure in public hospitals and health systems.
14. Support proposals to improve the Medi-Cal Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) process including but not limited to the sufficient staffing and automation of TAR field office operations, the expansion of cases that do not require a TAR, and use of statistical sampling in lieu of individual TARs.
15. Support proposals to conform State formulae for calculating individual share of costs and low-income eligibility in the Medicare Part D prescription drug program to adequate cost of living levels in Los Angeles County.

4.2 Emergency and Trauma Care

1. Reaffirm the County's commitment to the trauma care system in Los Angeles County and continue to work with the Statewide coalition to seek a continuation of State funding for trauma centers.

2. Support proposals to provide permanent, stable funding for the County's public and private emergency and trauma care system, including fees on alcohol consumption.
3. Support the continuation of the State's Emergency Medical Services Agency as an independent entity, and oppose efforts to consolidate the Agency with other State departments.
4. Support proposals that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency and trauma care services through the diversion of low acuity patients to more appropriate settings of care.
5. Support proposals that would allow fire departments that provide advanced life support services to restock drug supplies directly from private pharmacies.

4.3 Medi-Cal and Healthy Families

1. Support proposals that reduce the number of uninsured persons, and expand Medi-Cal and Healthy Families coverage to low-income persons such as IHSS workers and juveniles within county probation systems.
2. Support proposals to simplify and align Medi-Cal and Healthy Families eligibility rules, application, and re-determination processes to increase and expedite enrollment and promote retention, including presumptive eligibility, and elimination of financial barriers.
3. Support increased funding of Medi-Cal and Healthy Families outreach, enrollment, required documentation procurement, and retention activities.
4. Support proposals to allow counties and school districts to provide the State matching component and exercise the Federal waiver option to: 1) purchase family coverage, and/or 2) establish a cost-effective alternative using a community-based health delivery system.
5. Support proposals to allow counties to use Healthy Families funds to provide a continuum of mental health and public health nursing services for children in the public's care.
6. Support the State's pursuit of a Healthy Families waiver for family coverage where it is cost-effective and does not "crowd out" other health insurance coverage.
7. Support continued State funding for prenatal services to undocumented women.
8. Support expansion of the substance abuse benefit for children and parents.

9. Support pursuit of sufficient State matching funds, the expansion of eligibility and/or increased provider payment rates so that the State will use its entire SCHIP allotment which, under Federal law, must be expended within three years.
10. Support proposals to simplify and expand Medi-Cal and Healthy Families Program eligibility, such as by increasing income and asset eligibility levels and enabling more disabled persons to qualify (or alternatively, by expanding the definition of disability).
11. Support proposals to reform Medicaid, including the State DSH and Section 1115 Waiver components, to increase public hospital and health care system flexibility in redirecting Medicaid funds to priority emphasis areas, such as primary and preventive health care, without reducing total available Medicaid funding levels.
12. Support proposals to increase the Medi-Cal Maintenance Need Income Level to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and require the State to annually adjust the Medi-Cal Maintenance Need Income Level when the FPL is adjusted.
13. Support continuation of 100% cost-based reimbursement for Federally Qualified Health Centers.
14. Support assistance to local programs that combat Medi-Cal fraud.
15. Support proposals to expand local and statewide efforts to fund children's health coverage programs with the goal of universal health coverage for all children in the State of California.
16. Support proposals to allow women to utilize their full-scope no-cost Medi-Cal coverage for two years post-partum.
17. Support State funding for costs associated with implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act – Citizenship/Identity Verification.
18. Support proposals allowing Seniors and Persons with Disabilities continuance of their choice to maintain fee-for-service Medi-Cal.
19. Support legislation to increase the Medi-Cal Maintenance Need Income Levels to a minimum of 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
20. Support proposals to align Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for providers and hospitals in medically underserved areas in Southern California with Northern California Medi-Cal reimbursement rates.

4.4 Health Insurance and Coverage

1. Support proposals to require public and private insurers to offer full coverage for all health services including prenatal care, contraceptives, and screening for diabetes, hypertension, cervical and breast cancer, HIV/AIDS, STDs, substance abuse and mental health.
2. Support proposals to provide incentives for small businesses to offer quality health coverage for employees and their dependents, such as allowing small businesses to use both public and private purchasing pools on a regional or county level.
3. Support increased funding to develop demonstration projects within small businesses to increase enrollment in existing health insurance coverage programs.
4. Support enhanced access to prescription drugs, devices and immunizations for low-income uninsured persons.
5. Support measures to ensure that health care application forms are provided in languages other than English, in the primary language of the intended population served, and/or interpreters should be provided as needed.
6. Support measures to reduce the time to one year in which health insurance coverage cancellation must be determined.
7. Support measures which provide that health insurance coverage is established upon the date of receipt of an application or receipt of the 1st premium payment.
8. Support measures which require that cancellation of health insurance coverage must be prior to any authorization of services.
9. Support measures which would require the Department of Managed Health Care to review actuarial studies for any and all health insurance rate increases to ensure that the study was appropriately performed by a qualified actuarial firm.
10. Support measures which require that changes to health care coverage must be made within one year unless those changes apply to everyone in the insured population or are required by law or regulation.
11. Support measures that require health insurance companies to prove intentional omissions by an applicant to cancel coverage, and that require cancellations to correlate between any prior and present medical conditions for which treatment is needed.

12. Support proposals to develop and implement solutions to improve health care access in medically underserved communities within the State, including proposals to provide funding and other incentives for health care providers, hospitals, and clinics to serve medically underserved areas.

4.5 HIV/AIDS

1. Support continuation and review of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program to ensure the provision of an uninterrupted supply of medications in view of the growing costs of drugs and anticipated increases in utilization.
2. Support proposals and funding for the provision of comprehensive care and treatment services for people living with HIV/AIDS, including HIV counseling, testing, and education, and promote the inclusion of these services as part of routine medical care.
3. Support proposals and increased funding to effectively institute HIV surveillance by name Statewide in order to identify emerging areas of need, craft programmatic responses, and ensure adequate levels of federal funding.
4. Support proposals to promote HIV/AIDS policy consistent with accepted public health standards, and to upgrade and expand HIV counseling/testing, education, outreach, care and treatment in State correctional and incarceration facilities and transitional services upon release for prisoners with HIV/AIDS.
5. Support proposals to mitigate losses of federal funding for HIV/AIDS services with State budgetary appropriations.

4.6 Public Health

1. Support measures that provide funding to strengthen the ability of the public health system to detect and respond to natural, as well as man-made disasters, including acts of terrorism.
2. Support proposals which ensure a stable supply of medications, medical supplies, and blood products.
3. Support increased funding for public health activities including: acute communicable disease control, immunizations, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted disease control, veterinary public health and rabies control, public health laboratory, maternal and child health, family planning, childhood lead poisoning prevention, injury and violence prevention, food safety, and chronic disease programs.
4. Support legislation to require school districts and public park agencies to inspect their facilities on a regular basis for lead paint, report their findings to County health offices, and comply with requirements set by State and County childhood lead abatement programs.

5. Support proposals to require hospitals to have a written infection-control program, and/or to establish a State-wide system for public disclosure of information on healthcare-associated infections in a manner that would assist consumers to consider healthcare options.
6. Support legislation to protect and improve drinking water supplies, recreational waters and fish and game ecosystems by utilizing evidence-based approaches.
7. Support legislation to provide for the safe disposal of all waste materials, especially low-level radioactive waste, by utilizing evidence-based approaches.
8. Support legislation that enhances food safety programs and regulations.
9. Support legislation that preserves and enhances housing stock including measures that support safe home environments free from lead, mold and other indoor environmental hazards.
10. Support measures which establish, enhance, or fund policies, programs, research, standards, education curriculum, and public awareness campaigns that encourage physical activity, healthy eating, breast feeding, availability of nutritious and safe foods, and reduce the prevalence of smoking and obesity.
11. Support measures that expand, provide additional funding for, reduce barriers to and increase enrollment in food assistance programs and Head Start, including increasing income guidelines and benefits for Federal and State Food Assistance Programs.
12. Support increased funding of Medi-Cal and Healthy Families services to include obesity screening, prevention, and treatment for children at or above the 85th percentile of the sex-specific body mass index growth charts.
13. Support the implementation and enforcement of state and county cultural and linguistic competence standards for all health service programs in order to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate care.
14. Support legislation to improve the planning and certification of new Adult Day Health Care programs and to strengthen the program and fiscal monitoring of these programs.
15. Support proposals to reduce the spread of sexually transmitted diseases by adding neonatal herpes to the list of reportable diseases, requiring the adult film industry to increase surveillance and treatment efforts, and allowing public health departments to train, supervise, and monitor public health staff that conduct phlebotomy in field-based settings.

16. Support legislation and funding that facilitate or require health facilities, schools, private business, government, and government-funded agencies to participate in large-scale disaster preparedness exercises, especially in the area of mass care.
17. Support proposals that protect and improve the health of adolescents and young adults (13-24 years of age) through:
 - a) enhanced multidisciplinary collaborations among departments and agencies serving youth;
 - b) funding to enhance integration of services to adolescents, including physical and mental health, juvenile detention services, employment and training or community experiences to which the youth can be referred; and
 - c) training for adolescent service providers on youth development, youth resiliency, cultural competency, physical and mental health, youth violence prevention, nutrition and physical fitness, and substance abuse.
18. Support measures that promote partnerships between community organizations and Public Health agencies to establish and enhance public awareness campaigns to encourage healthy lifestyles.
19. Support funding to promote and market the availability of existing resources and services within Public Health to enable timely and adequate health access.
20. Support proposals that would prevent youth access to tobacco products by: 1) protecting anti-preemption language specified in the Cigarette and Tobacco Licensing Act of 2003 that explicitly allows local jurisdictions to pass tobacco retail licensing laws; 2) imposing restrictions on internet sale of tobacco products; and 3) restricting the sampling of tobacco products in bars and public events.
21. Support proposals that would reduce exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) including: 1) reducing involuntary exposure to SHS in outdoor areas; 2) reducing involuntary exposure to SHS in multi unit housing complexes; 3) protecting children from involuntary exposure to SHS while riding in cars; and 4) designating SHS as a public nuisance.
22. Support proposals to increase tobacco cessation services including mandating cessation services be covered as part of employee health benefits.
23. Support the development and implementation of programs which would provide incentives to improve the health of the workforce, including but not limited to facilitating strategies for increased physical activity and healthier eating.

4.7 Alcohol and Drug

1. Support proposals to increase funding for alcohol and drug prevention, treatment, and recovery services that provide local flexibility and discretion based on the local planning process.
2. Support proposals for increased funding from Medi-Cal, Healthy Families Program, and other funding sources to enhance the alcohol and drug services system of care, including youth in the juvenile justice system and youth transitioning out of foster care, to address the growing problems associated with adolescent alcohol and drug use.
3. Oppose measures that reduce the availability and accessibility of alcohol and drug prevention, treatment, and recovery services for persons with alcohol and drug problems.
4. Support proposals that provide funding for health, mental health, homeless assistance, child welfare services, social services, as well as adult and juvenile criminal justice programs that provide or make accessible substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services as part of its continuum of services.
5. Support proposals that promote environmental approaches to reducing alcohol and drug problems in the community, e.g., expanding local authority to enforce local zoning ordinances related to alcohol outlets and increasing funding to expand/enhance community-based coalitions to help residents prevent/reduce local alcohol and drug problems.
6. Support proposals that provide funding to increase the availability of education programs to prevent Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, a spectrum of irreversible birth defects caused when a woman drinks alcohol during pregnancy.
7. Support legislation that will fund and expand the County's research and prevention and treatment efforts on methamphetamine addiction.

4.8 Health Education and Training

1. Support an amendment to the Education Code to permit the Los Angeles County College of Nursing and Allied Health to receive State funding like nursing programs in community colleges, or alternatively seek an appropriation in the State budget.
2. Support enhanced funding for nursing education and training slots at public universities and teaching hospitals, as well as recruitment and retention of nurses, physicians, and allied health professionals to work in medically underserved areas.
3. Support proposals which would facilitate the recruitment of experienced pharmacists to work in California, including replacement of the existing State

pharmacist licensing examination with the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination and a California law examination.

4. Support proposals that provide funding for the education and training of students interested in the laboratory field, including but not limited to the Los Angeles County College of Nursing and Allied Health.
5. Support proposals that facilitate the recruitment of nationally licensed laboratory personnel to work in California, including acceptance of the American Society for Clinical Pathology licensure examinations.
6. Support proposals to expand healthcare workforce development funding for nursing student education.
7. Support proposals that fund training to enhance the competency of the Health Education workforce.

4.9 Women's Health

1. Support proposals to fund the development and delivery of child care and transportation services to enable all women to obtain timely and adequate health services.
2. Support proposals that expand access to and provide funding for a full range of prevention and treatment services for all women, including removing barriers to access, expanding payors, and improving outreach and education.
3. Support measures to increase the availability of and funding for prevention, diagnostic and treatment services for women affected by cardiovascular, cancer, osteoporosis and other chronic diseases.

5. Housing and Community Development

1. Support proposals that provide incentives to local government and/or developers to increase affordable housing.
2. Support proposals that increase home ownership opportunities for low and moderate-income families, and employees in vital occupations.
3. Support proposals to provide additional resources for meeting the capital and operational costs of housing production and related supportive service needs of low-moderate-income families and the needs of special populations, including elderly, disabled and mentally ill persons.
4. Support measures that end predatory lending practices.

5. Support measures that promote economic incentives as a means of attracting or retaining business in the County, and jobs in high poverty and unemployment areas.
6. Support proposals which would stimulate the local economy by accelerating or increasing spending on public works and infrastructure projects, especially those which would improve public health and public safety, mitigate hazards, reduce energy usage, or improve transportation.
7. Oppose legislation that would redirect redevelopment agency property tax increment from local redevelopment agencies to the State.
8. Oppose proposals to permanently prohibit the issuance of redevelopment tax allocation bonds.
9. Support legislation to enhance workforce development for high tech industries.
10. Oppose legislation that would jeopardize the transfer of the City of Industry Tax Increment Housing Set-Aside funds to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles.
11. Support legislation to distribute State housing funds to local jurisdictions based upon population and poverty levels.
12. Support an amendment to the prevailing wage provision of SB 975 so that it does not negatively impact affordable housing production.
14. Support legislation to provide Public Housing Authorities expanded access to criminal records, employment information, public assistance records and other information that pertains to participant information for housing purposes for prevention of fraud and other criminal activity.
13. Support legislation to encourage telemedicine or establish grants for the operation of new and existing urban telemedicine programs in medically underserved and urban areas.
14. Oppose changes to landlord/tenant laws that would involve public housing authorities in the legal process between tenants and their landlords.
15. Support proposals to address affordable housing needs on a multi-jurisdictional basis.
16. Support legislation that increases resources to clean-up and redevelop Brownfields.
17. Support legislation that continues the requirement for landlords to provide tenants that are on assisted programs with a 90-day notice to move in order to allow sufficient time to complete the process.

6. Justice and Public Safety

6.1 General

1. Support reimbursement of County costs for the prosecution and defense of new crimes.
2. Support increased State funding for multi-agency collaborative justice programs.
3. Support funding to expand video conferencing by law enforcement agencies.
4. Support full funding of the Community Law Enforcement and Recovery (CLEAR) Program.
5. Support legislation to provide funding for crime prevention/intervention and enforcement in public housing.
6. Support legislation to broaden the scope of information about sex offenders that can be provided over the internet and strengthen reporting requirements under Megan's Law.
7. Oppose legislation which would further limit the scope of information about sex offenders that can be provided over the internet and the authority of local jurisdictions to provide such information under Megan's Law.
8. Support legislation that maintains or increases funding and continues the current model of traffic violator school monitoring as described in the California Vehicle Code.
9. Support legislation to add any chemical used to make illegal drugs to the list of essential chemicals considered necessary for the manufacture of illegal drugs.
10. Support proposals to restore State funding for probation and sheriff personnel for training under the Standards and Training for Corrections Program.
11. Support proposals to prohibit the intentional feeding of select wild animals that present a threat to public safety.
12. Oppose legislation that would limit the court assistance program authority of non-profit agencies that administer and monitor traffic violator schools on behalf of the Superior Court.
13. Support legislation to enable law enforcement to implement vehicular forfeiture ordinances related to racing, rallying and exhibitionist driving on local roads, streets, and highways.
14. Support full funding of the cost to house State inmates returning to prison so the County can avoid expending its own resources for this purpose.

15. Support funding for the construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of County adult detention facilities to mitigate current overcrowding conditions and to improve access to various forms of treatment for those incarcerated.
16. Support legislation or proposals which provide authority for the involuntary placement of low level offenders on electronic monitoring which would allow the County to keep high level offenders for a larger percentage of their sentence.
17. Support legislation or proposals which reduce the time State prisoners remain in the County jail once sentenced to prison.

6.2 Proposition 36

1. Support additional State funding, without supplantation of existing resources, to ensure that nonviolent drug offenders have full access to a full continuum of drug addiction treatment and recovery support services, including drug testing, as a means of reducing re-arrests for drug-related crimes.
2. Support additional funding to cover any increased Proposition 36 workload staffing ratios for probation departments and increased county costs for the administration of contracts with qualified treatment providers.
3. Support permanent and full State funding for Proposition 36 (i.e. Substance Abuse Treatment Trust Fund) and ensure funding allocations meet caseload growth.
4. Support the prohibition against using Proposition 36 funding for drug treatment programs offered in a prison or jail facility, excluding those drug treatment services provided to defendants who are a part of an electronic monitoring system program.
5. Support proposals to reform and strengthen Proposition 36 through the use of frequent drug testing, graduated short-term sanctions and incarceration, in-custody treatment services, and close monitoring of defendants if such jail-based treatment programs are part of an overall system of graduated, short-term therapeutic sanctions supervised by the Courts and provided in a dedicated treatment unit of a county jail.
6. Oppose legislation that expands eligibility for Proposition 36 unless additional funding is provided to fully fund increased program costs.
7. Support additional funding for the Substance Abuse Offender Treatment Program to enable counties to improve their Proposition 36 treatment outcomes.

6.3 Trial Court Funding

1. Support measures which would increase the State's participation in trial court funding through the assumption of responsibility for financing court facility construction and maintenance.
2. Support measures which would require the State to fully fund any additional court costs incurred in implementing Proposition 36.
3. Support increased State funding for drug courts with expansion to pre-plea drug court programs.
4. Support measures that promote the transfer of trial court facilities to the State in an efficient and fiscally neutral manner.
5. Support measures and funding for the creation and expansion of mental health courts, drug courts and/or courts addressing the needs of persons with co-occurring disorders.
6. Support funding for the new Long Beach Courthouse Project in the Governor's Fiscal Year 2007-08 Budget.

6.4 Crime Lab

1. Support funding for the construction, renovation and operation of forensic crime laboratories.
2. Support funding to contract out work needed to reduce the DNA testing backlog.

6.5 Emergency Management and Operations

1. Support the establishment of Statewide standards for implementation and governance of 3-1-1 programs (non-emergency reporting and general government services) and 2-1-1 programs (community information and referral services).
2. Support financial assistance to local agencies for the acquisition of thermal imaging equipment that enables emergency response agencies to identify and locate targets in limited visibility environments.
3. Support legislation and/or administrative action which would provide funding to implement a new technical standard for public safety interoperability communications in the Los Angeles Region.

6.6 Fire

1. Support financial assistance to local governments for the acquisition of fire apparatus, including rotary and fixed-wing aircraft.
2. Support legislation mandating and/or funding the installation of fire protection systems in new commercial, educational and institutional facilities.
3. Support funding for the Office of State Fire Marshal for training, education, and code enforcement.
4. Oppose legislation that would require local fire agencies to assume responsibility for the disposal of illegal fireworks.
5. Support legislation that would require or encourage the use of fire-resistant building materials.
6. Support legislation that would provide funding for a standardized fire service training program.
7. Oppose proposal that impedes the ability to ensure timely weed hazard abatement through use of most effective methods to eliminate fire risk.

6.7 Juvenile Justice

1. Support proposals to ensure that each county receives annual Federal TANF block grant funding for emergency assistance for juvenile probation services in an amount at least equal to that received by counties in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1995.
2. Support increased State funding for transitional housing programs for delinquent youth.
3. Support measures that expand truancy programs.
4. Support increased funding for programs for delinquent and/or emotionally disturbed minors who require intensive case management services or for alternatives to camp placement, including public/private partnerships.
5. Support measures that provide funding for the construction, renovation, rehabilitation and operation of juvenile justice facilities.
6. Support funding for prevention and intervention programs for youth at risk of becoming involved or who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system.
7. Support funding for programs, services and facilities that provide a continuum of mental health services to detained minors, including mental health screenings, assessments and treatment services.

8. Support funding for information technology initiatives that assist juvenile justice agencies to integrate, upgrade and maintain justice systems.
9. Support increased funding for the High-Risk Youth Education and Safety Plan which funds services to youths in transition from juvenile camps and ranches.
10. Support full funding of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Act.
11. Support legislation to extend Kin-Gap benefits to Probation youth.

6.8 Probation

1. Support funding for the Developing Increased Safety through Arms Recovery Management (DISARM) Program.
2. Support State funding of adult probation services, and local assistance to cities and counties for correctional officer training programs.
3. Oppose reductions in probation funding below the level established in the FY 2004-05 State Budget.
4. Support legislation to assist probation departments in verifying that sex offenders and arsonists register with local law enforcement agencies, as required, by ensuring that probation departments are notified of violators who report directly to court.
5. Oppose measures that impose a reduction in probation officer caseloads without adequate funding.
6. Support measures to hold convicted persons accountable for the costs of probation services based on their ability to pay, and authorize collection by the Department of Corrections of court-ordered financial obligations payable to counties and county agencies from State prisoners and parolees.
7. Support legislation to fund and authorize increased caseload sizes for the implementation of continuous electronic monitoring of probationers.
8. Support legislation to allow probation departments to register narcotics offenders when the Chief Probation Officer determines there is a need to perform this task and when the resources are available.
9. Support legislation to restore the ability of the Board of Supervisors to order the distribution of court ordered installment payments.
10. Support legislation to authorize government agencies to exchange information regarding probationers to the full extent authorized by Federal law, while ensuring adequate due process protections.

11. Support funding for adult probation programs to reduce recidivism in the local and State criminal justice system.

6.9 Anti-Terrorism

1. Support funding of local efforts to prevent and prepare for acts of terrorism while minimizing duplication of responsibilities.
2. Support legislation to facilitate prosecution of terrorist threats, and establish reasonable punishments.
3. Support the pass-through of Federal homeland security funds to counties based on threat levels, population, and relative need.
4. Support funding to develop a coordinated public information program to communicate health risks and disseminate health information in preparation for and in response to a terrorist attack.
5. Support funding for decontamination capabilities at all hospitals.
6. Support funding to establish regional disaster response field hospitals to respond to medical needs during a disaster or terrorism incident.
7. Support funding to ensure an adequate and stable supply of vaccine, antidotes, medications, medical supplies, and blood products, and the development of a plan to distribute them in an emergency.
8. Support funding to enhance preparedness of the public health system and Emergency Medical Service providers to respond to chemical, biological, and other forms of terrorism.
9. Support funding of security improvements and equipment for critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, dams, flood control, food and water supply, mass transit facilities, hospitals, and other public structures.
10. Support development and funding of a coordinated mental health response in the event of a terrorist attack.
11. Support legislation to fund the creation and dissemination of emergency, health or criminal history information, while ensuring adequate due process protections.
12. Support legislation to fund staffing, training and the purchase of rapid response emergency equipment for first-responder teams including police/sheriff, firefighters, health, coroner, hospital emergency staff, and other medical professionals.

7. Maintenance of Effort/Mandate Relief

1. Support legislation to set a date certain for the payment of deferred SB 90 reimbursements so that local governments will be able to borrow against them.
2. Seek SB 90 reimbursement for special education-mental health mandates from increased Federal IDEA funds received by the State or under Proposition 98.
3. Support proposals to amend the California Government Code to eliminate the exclusion of SB 90 mandated reimbursements from any order by the State Water Resources Control Board or by any Regional Water Quality Control Board.
4. Support limiting State administrative fees to the State's actual costs for mandated administration.
5. Support streamlining or elimination of administrative mandates to focus limited resources on services.
6. Oppose new unfunded mandates unless they promote a higher priority.
7. Oppose any increase in the County's Trial Court Funding maintenance of effort above the agreement reached in AB 233 (Escutia) and subsequent actions providing MOE relief.
8. Oppose any measure to earmark or otherwise encumber the discretionary revenues available to counties as a result of AB 233 (Escutia) and subsequent actions providing MOE relief.
9. Support proposals to allow counties to apply for maintenance-of-effort relief when facility costs are included in the MOE base and remain an ongoing County responsibility.

8. Mental Health

1. Support legislation to provide mental health benefits coverage comparable to that provided for physical illnesses.
2. Support reform of the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and related laws that assist and protect the mentally ill.
3. Support development and implementation of State technical assistance and training programs to achieve an appropriate reduction in the use of seclusion and behavioral restraints in mental health facilities.
4. Support fully funded outpatient treatment and services for individuals who may be involuntarily committed.

5. Support legislation to fund mental health services for children including children's systems of care, multi-disciplinary approaches and training, Community Treatment Facilities, treatment for juvenile offenders, coordination of transitional youth services, and school based mental health services.
6. Support legislation to fund mental health services for adults and older adults including adult and homeless systems of care, Adult Protective Services, substance abuse treatment, Institutions for Mental Diseases reform, joint law enforcement and mental health teams, and expansion of the Healthy Families Program to include parents.
7. Increase the Healthy Families Program mental health benefit to meet State standards for provision of mental health services by a public agency.
8. Support legislation to fund mental health services to CalWORKs recipients, multi-agency training and coordination for suicide prevention, emergency services for disaster relief response, and recruitment, training and retention of mental health professionals.
9. Support increased funding for specialized mental health training to law enforcement personnel and probation officers.
10. Support increased funding for prevention, diversion, and intervention services for mentally ill adults, and delinquent and/or emotionally disturbed minors to divert them from the criminal justice system.
11. Support proposals that require managed care plans to contract with, and/or reimburse, counties for crisis mental health services provided to managed care beneficiaries.
12. Support full and timely funding of Federally-mandated mental health services for special education students under the AB 3632 Program, and support restructuring of the program to transfer responsibility from counties to school districts.
13. Support adequate funding of County-operated Medi-Cal managed mental care plans, and support the establishment of regulations that effectively support the provision and monitoring of high-quality mental health services.
14. Support increased treatment for the mentally ill homeless.

8.1 Residential Facility Safety

1. Support legislation to establish adequate and equitable care and supervision payment rates for private, residential care facilities that serve persons with psychiatric disabilities.

2. Support legislation to authorize appropriate access for County Patients' Rights Advocates to facilities that are not licensed, and alleged to be in violation of licensing law or regulation, in order to monitor conditions and make a determination regarding appropriate placement and safety of facility residents.
3. Support legislation to expand sanctions to enforce the citation of a community care facility determined to be unlicensed, including: 1) granting County Health Officers authority to close an unlicensed facility, 2) establishing clear criteria for such a closure, and 3) allowing the District Attorney the flexibility to determine if the matter will be adjudicated as a misdemeanor or a felony.

9. Revenue and Taxation

1. Support full State funding of the schools' share of the cost of property tax administration.
2. Support legislation to provide the County with greater flexibility to increase the local sales tax in light of the 1.5 percent local sales tax cap.
3. Support proposals to provide for a fee on alcohol consumption to be used to fund trauma and emergency care.
4. Support legislation to distribute the growth in sales tax revenue within counties on a per-capita or other basis that reflects the service responsibilities of counties.
5. Support proposals to mitigate County exposure to property tax refunds on State-assessed properties, including the establishment of a rebuttable presumption for values established within a defined range of "fair market value."
6. Support legislation to establish a procedure for notifying new property owners of any outstanding tax obligations following a property sale, and providing that penalties and interest will apply only if the new owner then fails to pay on time, provided that sufficient time is allowed counties to process notices and counties are reimbursed for costs.
7. Support legislation to clarify that, prospectively, interest on property tax refunds shall be computed from the date of payment of each installment.
8. Support legislation to clarify that property tax refund issues are not subject to class action law suits.
9. Oppose legislation that interferes with the County's ability to quickly resolve requests for changes in assessment or restricts the assessment appeals board's ability to deal with a sudden, large increase in the number of appeals.
10. Support legislation and regulation to uniformly apply tax and fees on utilities and similarly situated companies competing in California.

11. Support legislation to protect counties from refund claims based upon the application of Proposition 62 to taxes imposed in reliance upon applicable case law regarding the unconstitutionality of Proposition 62.
12. Support proposals to expand the type of debt that can be referred to the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB) intercept program to include debts owed to the County Probation Department and the Department of Health Services, and enable counties to access FTB tax return information for collection purposes.
13. Support legislation to require the Board of Equalization to identify the fiscal impact of any new or revised rule, regulation or instruction.
14. Oppose proposals that would pre-empt the ability of local governments to negotiate compensation for the use of rights-of-way by telecommunication companies.
15. Support legislation to clarify that the State Board of Equalization has sole responsibility for determining whether or not an organization may qualify for property tax welfare exemptions and that counties have sole responsibility for verifying that the uses of individual properties qualify for welfare exemptions.
16. Support legislation to clarify that, in addition to the right to inspect an assessee's records for purposes of assessment, an assessor has the right to copy those records.
17. Oppose legislation to require a trial de novo for property tax appeals.
18. Support legislation to require marina or storage facility operators to report vessels at their location to the county assessor for the purpose of assessment.
19. Support legislation to require manufactured home park operators to report the names, mailing addresses, park space number and description of resident homes to county assessors.
20. Support proposals to improve tax compliance related to non-reporting of corporate ownership transfers.
21. Oppose legislation that would give redevelopment agencies, cities and other public agencies that receive property tax revenues standing as third-party participants in assessment appeal proceedings relating to properties that are located in the agencies' jurisdiction or legislation that would require the clerk of the board to send notice of hearing to third-parties.
22. Oppose measures that jeopardize local revenues resulting from the provision of voice (telephone), video (cable) and data (internet) services.

10. Social Services

10.1 Reforming the Safety Net and Promoting Self-Sufficiency

1. Support proposals for State and local governments to work together as partners to balance resources, eligibility and benefits, and forge new partnerships with business, nonprofit, and religious organizations to promote individual self-sufficiency.
2. Oppose proposals which would reduce available Federal matching funds for health and human service programs by capping State General Fund contributions.
3. Support proposals to allocate block grant funds based on actual costs and caseloads for various functions such as assistance grants and employment services.
4. Support a single integrated safety net which pools Federal, State, and county resources.
5. Support the maintenance of a Statewide safety net because counties cannot afford to aid persons who are ineligible for Federal benefits under welfare reform.
6. Support a Statewide safety net that covers legal immigrants while holding sponsors, when available and able to pay, financially liable for sponsored immigrants.
7. Support the use of savings from welfare reform to finance safety net services, especially for vulnerable persons losing Federal eligibility who otherwise would be a County responsibility under Section 17000 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
8. Support increased funding for the provision of services to non-custodial parents to help them meet their responsibilities to their children, including services aimed at increasing their income, payment of child support, parenting skills, and positive relationships with their children.
9. Support efforts to lift the cap on State Food Stamp Employment and Training funding and require the State to fully fund the non-Federal match.
10. Support efforts to maximize Federal funding for Medicaid, Food Stamps, child welfare services, child support, and child care.
11. Support options to simplify the administration of public assistance programs such as CalWORKs, Medi-Cal and Food Stamps, including seeking any necessary Federal waivers.

12. Oppose efforts to make counties responsible for any Federal penalties resulting from circumstances beyond their control including inadequate Federal and State administrative funding as well as unclear Federal and State program instructions.
13. Support adequate funding to cover new Federal mandates for data collection, verification, reporting, and fraud detection systems, while maintaining priority for previously approved automated systems such as the County's LEADER project.
14. Support funding to modify the County's automated systems in any legislation containing policy changes that impact those systems.
15. Oppose proposals to repeal State law that allows the first \$50 of child support payments to be passed on to CalWORKs participants.
16. Support funding for ongoing procurement, development and maintenance activities for the County's LEADER system.

10.2 CalWORKs

1. Support measures that promote economic self-sufficiency through partnerships with public, private, nonprofit, and religious organizations to hire CalWORKs participants and provide limited community service and work experience opportunities.
2. Support measures that enable counties to develop coordinated systems, which include, but are not limited to, Employment Development Department and Department of Social Services programs that assess CalWORKs participants, and identify and develop the employment, training, or community work experience activities to which CalWORKs participants can be referred.
3. Support an equitable allocation of CalWORKs funds to counties based on relative need.
4. Support legislation to exempt the full value of one vehicle per household and/or a greater portion of a vehicle's value from the CalWORKs vehicle asset limit to ensure that clients have reliable transportation.
5. Support the full funding of CalWORKs Performance Incentives.
6. Support a Statewide safety net to cover hardship cases, such as families with abused or neglected children, the disabled, families and emancipated foster youth at risk of homelessness, children, or parents who are not readily employable beyond the five-year limit on Federal TANF benefits, and adults who have complied with the work requirements but are unable to find employment through no fault of their own.

7. Support expansion of the State's financial commitment to local welfare-to-work programs that promote self-sufficiency among welfare recipients/applicants, non-custodial parents of children receiving TANF benefits, and Food Stamp applicants/recipients.
8. Support the use of TANF funds to provide employment-related and supportive services to non-custodial parents of children receiving TANF benefits, as permitted under Federal law.
9. Support a Statewide safety net for families in which a member may be disqualified from receiving TANF benefits due to drug-related convictions, if that family member has successfully completed a qualified drug rehabilitation program and remains drug free.
10. Support efforts to fund and maintain the Statewide Fingerprint Imaging System (SFIS) for the CalWORKs and General Relief programs.
11. Support legislation that excludes special military pay when determining CalWORKs eligibility for families of deployed members of the armed services.
12. Support proposals that reduce barriers and increase the participation of pregnant or parenting teens in the Cal-Learn Program.

10.3 Welfare-to-Work Program

1. Support State matching funds sufficient to maximize the availability of Federal funding.
2. Support the pass-through of all Welfare-to-Work formula grant funds to workforce investment boards that administer the program at the local level.
3. Support the equitable allocation of Welfare-to-Work funds to local workforce investment boards, targeting at least two-thirds of available funds to local workforce investment areas which serve areas with high concentrations of poor people, based upon current poverty data.
4. Support proposals to ensure local flexibility and oppose additional requirements on the use of Welfare-to-Work funds.

10.4 Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

1. Support the equitable pass-through of the maximum amount of Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds to workforce investment boards that administer the program at the local level, without additional requirements on the use of funds.
2. Support consultation with local officials during revision of the Federal-mandated five-year strategic plan, especially with respect to local performance measures.

3. Support establishment of performance levels for all target populations (adult, dislocated workers and youth) that are reasonable and do not penalize local areas with high unemployment rates and disproportionate numbers of hard-to-employ persons, or which target employment and training services at the hard-to-employ.
4. Support the use of all of the Governor's WIA set-aside dollars (15 percent discretionary funds) to provide workforce investment services in the State of California, and to provide employment and training services for evacuees of natural disasters who relocate to California.

10.5 Citizenship and Legalization Assistance

1. Support increased funding for citizenship assistance with priority for services given to immigrants who have lost Federal benefits and to immigrants with special needs, such as the elderly and disabled, with allocations to counties based upon their share of the total number of legal immigrants statewide.
2. Support funding to assist in the legalization of immigrants covered under the Legal Immigration and Family Equity Act.

10.6 Domestic Violence

1. Support increased funding for services to domestic violence victims and their children, including increased funding for outreach and counseling of domestic violence victims and their families in unserved or under-served populations.
2. Support proposals to create a separate State allocation for domestic violence services to CalWORKs recipients.
3. Support efforts to promote domestic violence prevention and intervention through public awareness, education, and counseling.
4. Support legislation to foster coordination and collaboration between the various agencies providing domestic violence services.
5. Support legislation to provide funding to create transitional shelters for victims of domestic violence.

10.7 In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

1. Support legislation to reestablish an 80 percent funding formula for State participation in IHSS wages and benefits above the minimum wage or develop an alternative way to increase State participation in IHSS wages and benefits above the minimum wage.

2. Support proposals to ensure the delivery of all eligible services, quality of care, the health and safety of IHSS consumers, and the integrity of the IHSS Program.

10.8 Senior and Adult Services

1. Support increased funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) Programs to enable counties to ensure the safety and protection of abused and neglected elders and dependent adults and to meet new State mandates to the programs and associated increases in APS client caseloads.
2. Support measures to ensure that counties have priority for adult protective services funding over agencies which do not have State-mandated responsibilities.
3. Support increased IHSS funding with emphasis on respite care and the establishment of community-based, long-term care programs.
4. Support proposals that promote the use of less costly home and community-based care alternatives to the institutionalization of disabled persons, including by allowing funding to follow persons to home and community-based care services, such as IHSS.
5. Support legislation or budgetary actions to provide a tax credit to individuals who provide in-home care for elderly parents or other family members.
6. Support legislation to provide State funding for emergency IHSS providers to allow recipients to continue to receive IHSS services when the regular provider becomes ill or is otherwise unavailable to provide care.
7. Support reestablishment and full funding for the Special Circumstances Program to provide assistance to eligible, low-income aged, blind and disabled persons.
8. Support increased funding for aging programs such as Linkages, Multipurpose Senior Services Program, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers, and Home Delivered Meals.
9. Support funding for construction, renovation and/or acquisition of centers serving senior citizens.
10. Support State funding for elder abuse forensic examination programs.
11. Support proposals that would allow the pass-through of Federal funds appropriated for programs authorized under the Older Americans Act to the California Department of Aging and subsequently to the area agencies on aging in the absence of an enacted State budget.

12. Support proposals that promote the coordination of services such as Older Americans Act Programs, In-Home Supportive Services, Adult Day Health Care Services, Caregiver Resource Centers, and Adult Protective Services into an integrated long term care system.
13. Support proposals to facilitate the State's implementation of its Olmstead Plan, which prohibits the unnecessary institutionalization of individuals with disabilities, through the inclusion of appropriate access to community-based services and placement options.
14. Support proposals that would increase the types of professions required to report suspected cases of elder abuse.
15. Support proposals which require the licensing, oversight and regulation of conservators, establish a Probate Ombudsman Program, and provide sufficient resources to conduct investigations of conservators through the Probate Court and the Public Guardian Program.

10.9 Community Services Block Grant Funding

1. Support the equitable allocation of Federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding based on the 2000 Census, or a need-based formula, and oppose the use of CSBG grant funds to supplant existing funding of local programs.

10.10 Veterans

1. Support increased efforts to reduce homelessness for veterans and their families, increase affordable housing, mental health services, training, placement and employment opportunities, and provide other essential assistance to those who have honorably served in our armed forces.

10.11 Service Delivery

1. Oppose efforts to privatize and/or centralize eligibility processing for Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and/or Food Stamps at the State level.

10.12 Homelessness

1. Support proposals which increase funding for homeless assistance programs, including supportive housing, supportive services, and emergency services, increase local flexibility over the use of homeless assistance funds, simplify and reduce administrative requirements, and more equitably distribute funds based on relative need.
2. Support proposals which provide additional resources for meeting the housing and related supportive service needs of special populations, including elderly, disabled, and mentally ill persons.

3. Support creation and funding of a State plan to end homelessness, and the reconvening of a State-level Interagency Council on Homelessness comprised of representatives from all State cabinet departments responsible for programs or activities that affect homeless persons and the agencies that serve them.
4. Support proposals to improve the discharge policies and procedures of State prisons, hospitals and any other agencies with residential services, to ensure that persons are not homeless at the time of release.
5. Support proposals to increase services and benefits for CalWORKs homeless families and services and benefits to prevent homelessness among families receiving CalWORKs.

11. State-County Relationship

1. Oppose any further erosion of the County's property tax, sales tax, locally-imposed tax or fee, or Vehicle License Fee revenue base.
2. Oppose any legislation or regulation that would transfer to Los Angeles County or its residents any costs or revenue losses incurred by another jurisdiction.
3. Support or sponsor a constitutional amendment to reallocate to local school districts the property tax revenue derived from State-assessed properties in exchange for reallocation of non-ERAF property tax revenues derived from the local roll.
4. Support proposals to restructure State and local service responsibilities if they: create a nexus between authority, responsibility, accountability, and revenues; promote program effectiveness and cost containment; and recognize the limited fiscal capacity of counties by transferring sufficient revenue in the first and subsequent years.
5. Oppose the shift of programs unless control over those programs is also shifted and State funding is guaranteed.
6. Support all reasonable proposals to secure return of the property taxes lost under ERAF.
7. Support proposals to cap ERAF growth as an interim measure pending full return of the property tax.
8. Oppose legislation to change the definition of revenue neutrality in special cases, unless other entities are protected from unintended legal precedents by language narrowly justifying the need for special legislation.

9. Support a constitutional amendment to provide that the State budget and related bills can be approved by a majority vote.
10. Oppose legislation that would constitute State unfunded land use and general plan-related mandates on local governments.

12. Transportation

1. Support legislation to increase the fines for rail transit rights-of-way violations to make them comparable to fines for running a red-light or illegally driving in an HOV lane.
2. Support funding for the 1989 Retrofit Sound Wall and the post-1989 Sound Wall lists.
3. Support funding for pedestrian projects such as crosswalks, lighting, and traffic control.
4. Support dedicated funding for transportation required by the Welfare-to-Work Program.
5. Support an increase in grade separation funds if regional transit programs are not harmed and the funding received by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works from gas tax revenues is not reduced and the project funding received from the State Transportation Improvement Program is not significantly reduced.
6. Support reinstatement of State funding of the local 20 percent match for the Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program.
7. Support the direct allocation of funds to local governments for the preservation of local streets and roads, without reducing other transportation funds or impacting other agencies.
8. Support the protection of revenues received from the sales taxes on gasoline under Proposition 42 to ensure that these funds are used to fund transportation improvements.
9. Support the redirection of Federal minimum guarantee funds from the State Transportation Improvement Program to the Regional Surface Transportation Program.
10. Support legislation to reduce the vote requirement for enacting a county-wide sales or gas tax transportation measure.
11. Oppose legislation to relinquish State highways to local agencies without the State first restoring them to good repair.

12. Oppose legislation that would reduce the ability of local and regional transportation agencies to prioritize transportation projects with the State.
13. Support legislation allowing the use of automated enforcement systems to enforce speed limits on local streets and school zones.
14. Support rail safety legislation that is designed to prevent accidents and increase California's control over rail safety.
15. Oppose legislation and/or proposals that allow large combination vehicles (LCVs), such as triple trailer trucks to operate in California or attempts to increase the size or weight of combination vehicles.
16. Support legislation that provides for the repayment of \$2.3 billion in sales tax revenues on gasoline that were retained in the State General Fund in Fiscal Years 2003-04 and 2004-05, and secure additional funding to fill the funding gap between Fiscal Years 2005-06 and 2008-09 for the local agencies that received funds from AB 2928 Traffic Congestion Relief Program.
17. Support the inclusion of funding for grade separations and local road improvement projects in any proposed statewide infrastructure bond measure.
18. Support a statewide infrastructure repair and expansion program that includes substantial funding for urban mass transit priorities in Los Angeles County and throughout California.

13. Utilities and Infrastructure

13.1 Energy

1. Support the expansion of electric generation and supply in California, including a waiver of air quality emission standards when electricity supply is critically low.
2. Support an exemption to allow public agencies to extend the use of emergency generators when electrical blackouts are imminent.
3. Support increased funding to public agencies to encourage reduced consumption, develop alternative energy sources, and shift usage to non-peak hours.
4. Support funding for a grant program to encourage electric, and solar retrofitting of public buildings.
5. Support legislation to permit municipal utilities to enter into agreements with neighboring public agencies currently served by an investor owned utility for the provision of electricity.

6. Support authority for local governments that produce power to serve their own facilities utilizing the transmission and distribution lines of public or investor-owned utilities.
7. Support "direct access" legislation that would provide customers, such as the County, with a choice of retail electricity suppliers.
8. Support legislation that allows local government to purchase or generate and deliver electricity for its facilities independent of community choice aggregation plans.
9. Support funding to encourage local governments to install traffic signals with an independent power source provided the power source is equivalent or cleaner than the current supply.
10. Support proposals to assist low-income and elderly households with energy assistance, such as payment subsidies, conservation education, weatherization, and energy efficiency improvements.
11. Support proposals that would increase access to funding under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in Los Angeles County.
12. Support proposals which ensure that local government is offered fair and economical pricing of energy by public generators.

13.2 Waste Management

1. Support increased flexibility for local agencies to meet the waste reduction goals of the State Integrated Waste Management Act.
2. Support proposals to correct deficiencies in State waste disposal reporting requirements, which may unreasonably cause a local agency to fail to achieve the State's fifty percent waste reduction mandate.
3. Support legislation to promote or provide incentives for the development of alternatives to landfills and incineration, including conversion technologies, and provide diversion credit for these alternatives.
4. Support funding to local governments for the environmentally safe management of electronic waste.
5. Support legislation to expand markets for diverted materials including funds for Recycling Market Development Zones.
6. Support the elimination of overlapping authority between the Department of Conservation's Division of Recycling and all CAL- EPA agencies/departments.

7. Support legislation to place greater emphasis on waste diversion program implementation, rather than relying primarily on quantity management, for the purpose of determining a local government's compliance with mandates established in the California Integrated Waste Management Act.
8. Support legislation to provide increased local government representation on the California Integrated Waste Management Board.
9. Oppose legislation to eliminate diversion credits for the use of green waste as a landfill cover.
10. Support legislation that would encourage the use of asphalt containing crumb rubber on highway construction and repair projects constructed by governmental agencies and industry.
11. Support legislation requiring the Waste Board to take the lead role of coordinating and funding research and development of markets for diverting materials and formulating source reduction strategies.
12. Support legislation that identifies financial incentives (such as no-, or low-interest loans, tax credits, etc.) to assist and encourage the hundreds of thousands of California homeowners (rural, coastal and urban) who operate Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), to test and structurally upgrade, as determined, their OWTS as required for compliance with AB 885.

13.3 Telephone Services/Telecommunications

1. Support efforts to establish technology-specific area codes in order to reduce the proliferation of area codes for regular telephone customers.
2. Support proposals that improve the management of numbering resources applicable to telecommunications carriers, and avoid the premature exhaustion or split of an area code.
3. Support measures that promote universal access to telecommunication services including voice, video, data, and the Internet.
4. Oppose measures that restrict local control over the public rights-of-way.
5. Oppose measures restricting local authority over emergency alert communications systems.
6. Support measures that provide local governments with no-cost access to media to distribute information to residents by such methods as Public, Educational, and Government access channels.

2007-08 PROPOSALS FOR COUNTY-SPONSORSHIP

Child Care Fraud

- On March 21, 2006, the Board took action to support SB 1421 (Margett), which was sponsored by Supervisor Knabe, to establish a two-year pilot in Los Angeles County to identify, investigate, and prosecute suspected cases of fraud in Stage 2 and Stage 3 CalWORKs Child Care Programs. The Board subsequently took action on July 5, 2007 instructing the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a legislative proposal for the 2007 State Legislative session to implement an effective system to prevent and detect fraud in the Stage 2 and Stage 3 CalWORKs Child Care Programs. On November 14, 2006 the Board directed the County's Sacramento Advocates to expand legislative efforts to include seeking enhancement of enhanced quality control and fraud mitigation measures for these programs through the State Budget process. **Therefore, the County will sponsor or support legislation and funding to enact child care fraud measures in the Stage 2 and Stage 3 CalWORKs Child Care Programs.**

Electronic Monitoring

- On August 1, 2006, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Office and County Counsel to draft Legislation to amend State law to allow for the courts, the Sheriff and the Probation Department to mandate an electronic monitoring sentence, while also keeping the voluntary provision in place, and instruct the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to seek an author for the bill. **Therefore, the County will sponsor legislation to implement electronic monitoring sentencing.**

Sex Offenders

- On September 5, 2006, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Office to explore legislation prohibiting sex offenders from entering public libraries.

A working group convened by the CAO including the County Librarian and staff from the District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff, and County Counsel found that SB 1128 (Alquist), urgency legislation which was signed by the Governor on September 20, 2006, is likely to have a significant impact on preventing sex offenders from having contact with young children in libraries. SB 1128 provides that any registered sex offender who remains in a public place where children normally congregate after being asked to leave by a city police officer or deputy sheriff, among others, or returns within 72 hours after being asked to leave, would be punished by a fine up to \$2,000, by imprisonment in county jail for up to six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment. The working group determined that it would be appropriate to fully implement this new law in County libraries and assess its effectiveness prior to recommending that the County seek additional legislation. The County Librarian is working with County Counsel and the Sheriff's staff to draft policies, procedures and training materials to train appropriate staff.

Therefore, the County will wait until SB 1128 is implemented locally and assess the effectiveness of the new law before sponsoring legislation.

Prescribing and Distributing Naloxone

- On September 12, 2006, the Board instructed the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to seek State legislation that would limit the civil and criminal liability involved in prescribing and distributing Naloxone for all parties involved in any expansion of the pilot drug overdose prevention and Naloxone distribution project in Los Angeles County. **Therefore, the County will sponsor legislation to accomplish this goal.**

Mandatory Retirement Age for Law Enforcement Personnel

- On November 14, 2006, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to seek legislation that will lift the mandatory retirement age for Sheriff's employees hired prior to April 1997, similar to those hired after April 1997. **Therefore, the County will sponsor legislation to lift the mandatory retirement age for Sheriff's employees hired prior to April 1997.**

Military Personnel Voting

- On November 14, 2006, the Board instructed County Counsel, Registrar-Recorder/County-Clerk and the Director of Military and Veterans Affairs to develop legislative language that will allow those serving in the military, who are called to active duty in the United States on short notice, to be able to cast an absentee/provisional/or faxed ballot allowing those voters to be made part of the official canvass, and identify a sponsor for this legislation. **Therefore, the County will sponsor legislation to accomplish this goal.**

State Street Sign Requirements

- On December 5, 2006, the Board instructed the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to seek legislation to allow Los Angeles County to use County Street Name Signs on State highways, as long as they do not violate mandatory compliance conditions; and to further investigate if other cities or counties throughout the State would also benefit from such legislation and would want to join in supporting such an effort. **Therefore, the County will sponsor legislation to allow the use of County Street Name Signs on State highways.**

Emancipated Foster Youth

- On January 9, 2007, the Board instructed the Director of Children and Family Services, the Chief Probation Officer and the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the State legislative delegation, the County Welfare Directors and the California Youth Connection, to sponsor much needed legislation in the 2007-08 State Legislative Session to provide enhanced services and financial support to emancipated foster youth between the ages of 18 and 21 years. **Therefore, the County will sponsor legislation to provide enhanced services and financial support to emancipated foster youth between the ages of 18 and 21 years.**

CARRYOVER SPONSORSHIP PROPOSALS FROM 2005-06

Local Alcohol Tax Authority

- Under current law, local government does not have the authority to levy an alcohol tax. The weakened condition of the California economy has increased the demand for local governmental services beyond what current revenues finance. This places essential services such as emergency and trauma care, where the need for these services is often linked to alcohol consumption, at risk. Last year, the County sponsored SB 656 (Romero) but the bill died in committee. **Therefore, the County will continue to sponsor legislation that would authorize counties to impose a local tax of not more than 5% on the sale of alcoholic beverages in order to continue to provide essential public services, including emergency and trauma care.**

Homeless Response

- In response to the Board's directive to identify actions to address homelessness, Los Angeles County co-sponsored AB 2961 (Nuñez) to enhance CalWORKs homeless assistance services. Most of the provisions in AB 2691 were enacted as part of the Fiscal Year 2006-07 State Budget. However, a provision to provide time-limited rental subsidies as a work support for CalWORKs families who have received permanent housing assistance and for whom housing instability is a barrier to finding and maintaining employment was not included in the Budget. **Therefore, the County will sponsor or support legislation to amend State law to enhance the CalWORKs Homeless and Housing Assistance Program by creating a time-limited rental subsidy for certain qualified CalWORKs families.**
- On April 4, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved the County Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI) which allocates \$100 million in county funds for programs to reduce and prevent homelessness. Among those most at risk for chronic homelessness are mentally ill individuals many of whom are eligible to receive SSI and Medi-Cal benefits but do not because of program barriers. Some of these individuals are unable to sufficiently document their disability because they do not qualify for Medi-Cal. Documentation of a mental disability is needed to meet SSI eligibility requirements; however, this documentation is extremely difficult to obtain without Medi-Cal coverage. Thus, many chronically, homeless persons with a mental health disability are unable to access services and benefits to stabilize their lives. **Therefore, the County will sponsor or support legislation to establish presumptive Medi-Cal program to provide medical coverage for uninsured chronically homeless adults with a mental health disability who would likely be determined disabled and eligible to SSI.**