

Legislative and External Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting

June 19, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Legislative and External Affairs Committee will conduct a meeting on June 19, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.

This meeting will be conducted via teleconference pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act according to Government Code sections 11123, 11123.5, and 11133. The location(s) from which the public may participate are listed below. All members of the public shall have the right to offer comment at this public meeting as described in this Notice.

DATE June 19, 2025

TIME 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

LOCATION 1812 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95811 and Virtual

ZOOM ACCESS

Zoom meeting link and dial-in number will be provided upon registration.

[Free Zoom Registration Link](#)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mark Bontrager, *Chair*
Robert Callan, *Vice Chair*
Amy Fairweather, J.D.
Karen Larsen
Gladys Mitchell
Marvin Southard, Ph.D.
Jay'Riah Thomas-Beckett

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Brenda Grealish

Public participation is critical to the success of our work and deeply valued by the Commission. Please see the detailed explanation of how to participate in public comment after the meeting agenda.

Our Commitment to Excellence

The Commission's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan articulates four strategic goals:



Champion vision into action to increase public understanding of services that address unmet behavioral health needs.



Catalyze best practice networks to ensure access, improve outcomes, and reduce disparities.



Inspire innovation and learning to close the gap between what can be done and what must be done.



Relentlessly drive expectations in ways that reduce stigma, build empathy, and empower the public.

Meeting Agenda

Items may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Public comment is taken on each agenda item. Unlisted items will not be considered.

12:30 p.m. **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

12:35 p.m. **2. Announcements**

12:40 p.m. **3. General Public Comment**

12:50 p.m. **4. Overview of Legislative & External Affairs Committee**

Overview of the purpose and scope of the committee.

- Public Comment & Open Dialogue

1:20 p.m. **5. Update on Advocacy Programs**

Update and discussion on Advocacy Programs and the development of the upcoming Transition Age Youth Advocacy Contract.

- Public Comment & Open Dialogue

1:50 p.m. **6. Legislative Priorities**

Discussion and recommendation on decision-making framework for considering legislation.

- Public Comment & Open Dialogue
- Vote

2:30 p.m. **7. Adjournment**

Our Commitment to Transparency

In accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, public meeting notices and agenda are available on the internet at www.bhsoac.ca.gov at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting. Further information regarding this meeting may be obtained by calling (916) 500-0577 or by emailing bhsoac@bhsoac.ca.gov.

Our Commitment to Those with Disabilities

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals who, because of a disability need special assistance to participate in any Commission meeting or activities, may request assistance by calling (916) 500-0577 or by emailing bhsoac@bhsoac.ca.gov. Requests should be made one (1) week in advance, whenever possible.

Notes for Participation

For Public Comments: Prior to making your comments, please state your name for the record and identify any group or organization you represent.

Register to attend for free here:

https://bhsoac-ca-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvdOirpz8iEtQdBKMRwlzvIIQ5pMjAbR_F

Email Us: You can also submit public comment to the Commission by emailing us at publiccomment@bhsoac.ca.gov. Emailed public comments submitted at least 72 hours prior to the Commission meeting will be shared with Commissioners at the upcoming meeting. Public comment submitted less than 72 hours prior to the Commission meeting will be shared with Commissioners at a future meeting. Please note that public comments submitted to this email address will not receive a written response from the Commission. **Emailing public comments is not intended to replace the public comment period held during each Commission Meeting and in no way precludes a person from also providing public comments during the meetings.**

Public Participation: The telephone lines of members of the public who dial into the meeting will initially be muted to prevent background noise from inadvertently disrupting the meeting. Phone lines will be unmuted during all portions of the meeting that are appropriate for public comment to allow members of the public to comment. Please see additional instructions below regarding public participation procedures.

The Commission is not responsible for unforeseen technical difficulties that may occur. The Commission will endeavor to provide reliable means for members of the public to participate remotely; however, in the unlikely event that the remote means fail, the meeting may continue in person. For this reason, members of the public are advised to consider attending the meeting in person to ensure their participation during the meeting.

Public participation procedures: All members of the public have a right to offer comment at the Commission's public meeting. The Chair will indicate when a portion of the meeting is open for public comment. **Any member of the public wishing to comment during public comment periods must do the following:**

- **If joining in person.** Complete a public comment request card and submit to Commission staff. When it is time for public comment, staff will call your name and you will be invited to the podium to speak. Members of the public should be prepared to complete their comments within 3 minutes or less, unless a different time allotment is needed and announced by the Chair.
- **If joining by call-in, press *9 on the phone.** Pressing *9 will notify the meeting host that you wish to comment. You will be placed in line to comment in the order in which requests are received by the host. **When it is your turn to comment, the meeting host will unmute your line and announce the last three digits of your telephone number.** The Chair reserves the right to limit the time for comment. Members of the public should be prepared to complete their comments within 3 minutes or less time if a different time allotment is needed and announced by the Chair.

- If joining by computer, press the raise hand icon on the control bar. Pressing the raise hand will notify the meeting host that you wish to comment. You will be placed in line to comment in the order in which requests are received by the host. When it is your turn to comment, the meeting host will unmute your line, announce your name, and ask if you'd like your video on. The Chair reserves the right to limit the time for comment. Members of the public should be prepared to complete their comments within 3 minutes or less time if a different time allotment is needed and announced by the Chair.

In accordance with California Government Code § 11125.7(c)(1), members of the public who utilize a translator or other translating technology will be given at least twice the allotted time to speak during a Public Comment period.