



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

3530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1140 • Los Angeles, CA 90010 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-4748
 www.hivcommission-la.info

While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

JOINT PUBLIC POLICY (JPP) COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES February 14, 2008

Approved 3/5/2008

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	HIV EPI AND OAPP STAFF	COMM STAFF/CONSULTANTS
Whitney Engeran, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Lee Kochems, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Ted Liso	William Strain	Craig Vincent-Jones
Jeffrey Goodman	Ruben Acosta	Kathy Watt		Nicole Werner
Ruel Nolloedo	Kyle Baker			
Dean Page	Carrie Broadus			
James Skinner	Kevin Farrell*			
Ron Snyder	Daniel Rivas*			
	Peg Taylor			
	Chris Villa			
<i>*pending PPC membership</i>	Tim Young*			

CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET:

- 1) **Agenda:** Public Policy Committee, 2/14/2008
- 2) **Legislation:** APLA Legislation and Policy Summary, 2008

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Engeran called the meeting to order at 7:20 a.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order (*Postponed*).
3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:** Minutes were not available.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:** There was no comment.
5. **COMMISSION COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:** Mr. Page distributed a survey he had produced to get HIV/AIDS disease terminology feedback for the 2010 Ryan White Principles Subcommittee. He requested surveys be returned by end of the day.
6. **PUBLIC/COMMISSION COMMENT FOLLOW-UP:** There was no comment.
7. **CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:** There was no report.
8. **STATE BUDGET:**
 - A. **Proposed Office of AIDS Reductions:**
 - Mr. Nolloedo, APLA, noted the agency did a summary of the \$11 million in proposed state HIV cuts.

Joint Public Policy (JPP) Committee Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2008

Page 2 of 2

- The State Senate Health Committee also had approved \$1 billion in mid-year cuts the previous evening, with a 10% Medi-Cal rate reduction. The Assembly Health Committee would vote on the proposal that day. Floor votes were expected in both houses the following day. Mid-year cuts moved quickly, so focus was on strategies for the next year.
- Mr. Goodman felt consumers should fully express how cuts would affect them. At the same time, he felt bodies like the Commission should strategize alternative ideas in order not to spark an exceptionalism backlash during a fiscal crisis.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones said he had spoken with a member of the State's Medical Advisory Committee (MAC), who said that two of three non-HAART classes (co-morbidities, anti-wasting, and anti-psychotics) of formulary drugs would need to be cut. The MAC member emphasized protecting co-morbidity treatment and supporting cuts to anti-wasting drugs first. Unfortunately, anti-wasting drugs were not available from other sources, but would account for about \$5.5 million of the \$7 million proposed ADAP cut.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones asked if increased rebate levels had been discussed. A Catch-22 had been noted since formulary reductions also reduced state negotiating power with pharmaceutical companies whose drugs had been dropped. It was agreed that any savings achieved through rebates should be kept in the HIV/AIDS accounts.
- Mr. Nollo do noted that last year there was \$9.8 million in ADAP savings and asked about this year's estimated savings. Mr. Strain replied it would likely depend on which drugs stayed in the formulary and the companies affected. Savings were achieved over the last few years by other states and California working together with industry. Anticipated rebates were already factored into the budget provided to the state by OA.
- Mr. Engeran proposed pushing the state to place drugs in the VA pricing structure. He estimated it would save the state \$15 million. There was, he said, heavy federal resistance since other states would then want to do the same. He added that drug pricing was currently seen as proprietary like drug formulae. While it was unlikely that drugs would be added to VA pricing, strong support could be used as leverage for drug price concessions.
- Mr. Nollo do reported that the California HIV Alliance had composed a letter on the cuts that he would provide when final. The draft prioritized opposition to certain cuts like ADAP and TMP. Mr. Vincent-Jones felt that, while wise to oppose everything in public, it was better not to identify priorities that could undermine other areas at this point.
- Mr. Snyder said the Alliance had negotiated preservation of care to the detriment of prevention in a previous crisis. It was important, he noted, to be aware of partners' priorities. Mr. Engeran felt that heightened JPP's integrated role.
- Mr. Nollo do said SCHAC was planning in-district visits March 15-24 and a Spring Lobby Day with travel scholarships. They would also have a template of a letter opposing cuts on their website and were initiating a post card campaign.
- Suggestions for increased revenue were: an excise tax; increasing rebate levels; VA pricing structure for drugs; "public health tax" on alcohol; temporary sales tax increase, preferably tied to markers; Vehicle License Fee (VLF) increase.
- ➡ It was agreed to offer several ideas to the Consumer Caucus. 1) compile a group of personal stories; 2) develop presentation bullet points, and 3) set-up meetings at local legislative offices with consumers.
- ➡ Since SCHAC planned a consumer training, Mr. Vincent-Jones suggested holding the training as the Consumer Caucus, with all consumers invited, and perhaps including a dinner break.
- ➡ It was agreed that the Commission would host bi-weekly, Wednesday, 9:00 am action update calls starting in March. Mr. Vincent-Jones would bring a draft letter. It would not be sent sooner than March 15th when mid-year budget adjustments would be completed.

B. Proposed MediCal/DentiCal Reductions: This item was postponed.

C. Proposed Health Care Reform: This item was postponed.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.