



ACHD

ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
HEALTHCARE DISTRICTS

Association of California Healthcare Districts: Your Steadfast Partner in Advocacy



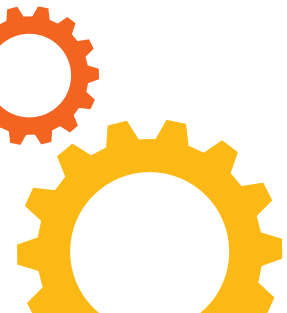
The Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) is the steadfast advocate for Healthcare Districts, navigating the evolving landscape of health care, changes to local governance and establishing long-lasting relationships with state and legislative officials. ACHD's Advocacy Team, in partnership with the lobbying firm Hurst Brooks Espinosa, educates legislators and their staff on the vital role of Healthcare Districts in communities across California. We strategically advocate for state policies that allow Districts to provide care and wellness that might otherwise be out of reach.

The Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) represents Healthcare Districts throughout the state's urban, suburban and rural areas. California is home to 79 Healthcare Districts that play a profound role in responding to the specialized health needs of local communities by providing access to essential health services to tens of millions of Californians while also having direct accountability to the communities that Districts serve.



"Our united voice under ACHD has empowered Healthcare Districts to come together for common policy and advocacy goals. Together, we are positively shaping health care programs and wellness services for the millions of Californian children, families and seniors we represent."

– Howard Salmon, Trustee,
Fallbrook Regional Health District





ADVOCACY IN ACTION

ACA 1 (Aguir-Curry): Creates a new voter approved mechanism with a vote threshold of 55% to approve local general obligation (G.O.) bonds and special taxes for certain affordable housing and public infrastructure projects, including hospitals.

AB 890 (Wood): Expands the scope of nurse practitioners, and allows them to practice to the full extent of their education and training.

SB 227 (Leyva): Increases fines to hospitals for violations of nurse-to-patient ratio regulations.

The Advocacy Team ensures ACHD's Advocacy Principles guide the many policy discussions and decisions that go before the legislative and executive branches of the state government. The Advocacy Principles adapted and adopted each year by ACHD's Advocacy Committee provide leadership and direction on a range of critical issues that affect Healthcare Districts' ability to serve the public, including:

Access to Care

Support proposals to reduce health inequities and eliminate barriers to good health, increase equitable distribution of resources necessary to serve vulnerable populations, expand health care workforce loan assumption programs, increase funding for telehealth services, authorize Healthcare Districts to directly employ physicians, expand the scope of practice for mid-level health care professionals, expand health care workforce training programs, increase workforce diversity and programs geared toward increasing health care workforce, and address gaps in coverage.

Community Health

Support proposals that address social determinants of health, illness prevention, community health and wellness, and ensure Healthcare Districts are eligible to access grants and funding to address these issues.

Labor Relations

Oppose increases to workers' compensation rates, financial liability for employers, potential litigation, and labor disputes. Support improvements to the workers' compensation system, cost savings for employers, and ensuring that Healthcare Districts retain the ability to contract for services.



Local Government

Support and preserve the autonomy of Healthcare Districts. Support the existing LAFCO process, expanded special district representation on LAFCO and ensure LAFCOs have adequate resources to accomplish their statutory obligations. Support an update to the Healthcare District enabling act to demonstrate Healthcare Districts' commitment to good governance.



Finance

Support increased reimbursement funding for outpatient, behavioral health, substance abuse, case management, workforce needs and population health.



Public Works

Support the authority for all Healthcare Districts to utilize the design-build process for construction projects. Oppose increased public works projects' regulatory and financial burdens on Healthcare Districts.

Through its Advocacy Principles and work, ACHD has helped shape public policies, ballot initiatives, educational and outreach programs, and constituent services leveraged by Healthcare Districts over the years.

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