

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jeff DeGuia and I share this comment on behalf of Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California (AJSOCAL). The first six months of this current federal administration has caused significant hurt and devastation to our trans and queer community members especially to our trans and queer youth. Trans and queer community members are some of the most vulnerable in our city, and especially so when their identity includes their immigration status. We have seen the impacts of the federal policies which have ended life-saving gender affirming care for youth at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and Kaiser Permanente and have seen funding for HIV research and PreP and other prevention practices shrink. The painful rhetoric being spewed by the White House has caused stress and made trans and queer youth and adults become even bigger targets of violence and harm which includes in school settings both higher education and K-12. Los Angeles needs to stand firm with our LGBTQIA+ community members, ensuring their protection and access to services and resources that can ensure their best ability to live full and dignified lives.