



# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

## MINUTES

Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

200 N. Spring Street, Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90012

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Theresa de Vera  
Richard Rothenberg  
Myrna Cabanban  
Alisa Schlesinger  
Dr. Robert Bitonte  
Iran Hopkins  
Robert Williams  
Betty Wilson

### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

David Wolf (excused)

### DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director

Chris Lee, City Attorney Office

### OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

### GUESTS:

Riccardo Echeverria, managing partner and head of the HMO Litigation and Property/Casualty Departments at Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP.

**ITEM NO. (1): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

President de Vera called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The Commission had a quorum when roll call was conducted.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the May 9, 2018, meeting minutes.

**ITEM NO. (2): PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC HEARING ON ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE**

Presentation on Access to Medical Care from Michael Bidart, managing partner and head of the HMO Litigation and Property/Casualty Departments at Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP. Riccardo Echeverria presented on the denials of healthcare claims, particularly, of those members who are disabled. The HMO Litigation and Property/Casualty Departments firm deals with health insurance issues and advocating for people having issues with their health claims. The most common health care issues they receive is when an insurance company benefit is denied when the doctor indicates are medically necessary and when payments are delayed that cause more complications for patients.

Afterward, constituents are invited to share their experiences orally for a maximum of 2 minutes and/or in writing for a maximum of 2 pages on any of the questions.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (3): DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OR UPCOMING TOPICS**

The Commission will decide on "Voting Access" and "Education" as future topics to be explored by the Commission. The Commission decided that Voting Access will be the topic of the July agenda and Education will be the topic for August agenda, revisiting the topic of Voting Access during the month of October. The Commission on Disability suggested clinical depression,

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suicided, financial empowerment for people with disabilities, and issues concerning immigration as topics for future consideration.

Action Taken: The Commission voted that Voting Access will be the topic of the July agenda and Education will be the topic for August.

### **ITEM NO. (4): NOMINATIONS FOR COMMISSION ON DISABILITY OFFICER POSITIONS**

On June 13th, 2018 the Commission will open nominations for the offices of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Secretary.

Commissioners may self-nominate or be nominated in absentia. The election will be held at the Commission's meeting in July 2018. Commissioners that wanted to self-nominate or nominate another Commissioner it is preferred that you submit a narrative statement or a resume for background information of the candidate for the upcoming election in July.

Action Taken: Commissioner Wolf self-nominated and was nominated for president, Commissioner Schlesinger was nominated for Second Vice President or First Vice President, Commissioner De Vera was nominated as President, Commissioner Hopkin was nominated for First Vice President, and Commissioner Williams was nominated for Secretary.

### **ITEM NO. (5): PUBLIC COMMENT**

For items not on today's agenda, but under the Commission's jurisdiction, members of the public who wish to speak on items shall be allowed to speak for up to two minutes.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

### **ITEM NO. (6): Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:52 P.M.