



C A L I F O R N I A

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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February 5, 2025

Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Attention: General Counsel – Grace E. Oh
4650 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
[REDACTED]

RE: Gender Affirming Care

Dear Ms. Oh:

The Attorney General's Office is aware of concerns about gender affirming care being impacted by recent federal government actions attempting to restrict federal funds to recipients of federal grants, including the availability of federal financial assistance regarding the provision of gender affirming care to minors.

On January 28, 2025, the Office of the Attorney General of California, along with 22 other state Attorneys General nationwide, filed suit in federal district court to halt the federal government's illegal efforts to freeze such federal funding. The Court issued a [Temporary Restraining Order](#) (Order) on January 31, 2025, prohibiting federal agencies from taking any action that would "pause, freeze, block, cancel or terminate" such funding. Agencies must continue to comply with existing grants, awards, and obligations, except as authorized by law.

As a result of the Order, the federal Department of Justice [noticed federal agencies and other federal actors of the Order](#) and of their ongoing obligations to comply with existing funding requirements. It reads, in part: "federal agencies cannot pause, freeze, impede, block, cancel, or terminate any awards or obligations on the basis of the OMB memo, *or on the basis of the President's recently issued Executive Orders,*" (emphasis added). As such, the recent Executive Order pertaining to gender-affirming care for minors does not provide federal agencies with any basis to threaten or revoke your federal funding.

As a reminder, California law, including the Unruh Civil Rights Act, Civil Code section 51, and Government Code section 11135, prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Electing to refuse services to a class of individuals based on their protected status, such as withholding services from transgender individuals based on their gender identity or their diagnosis of gender dysphoria, while offering such services to cisgender individuals, is discrimination. California families seeking gender affirming care, and the doctors

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and staff who provide it, are protected under state laws. The Office of the Attorney General will continue to defend California law.

Please inform us within 10 days whether your facility is canceling appointments for gender affirming care and the justification for doing so. Please feel free to attach any documents you think are relevant in explaining your position.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in responding to this matter.

Sincerely,

Neli Palma

NELI N. PALMA
Senior Assistant Attorney General

For ROB BONTA
Attorney General