



February 25, 2021

Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary
California Health and Human Services Agency
1600 Ninth Street, Room 460
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Extending All Facilities Letter (AFL) 20-30 to Allow Community Health Centers to Stand-up Vaccine Clinics

Dear Dr. Ghaly:

On behalf of [Health Center Partners of Southern California](#) and its 17-member primary care organizations, which together serve more than 917,000 patients each year, for 3.9 million patient visits each year, at 160 practice sites across San Diego, Riverside, and Imperial counties, **I request an extension of AFL 20-30 to ensure Community Health Centers can continue to support the administration's vision and effort in fighting COVID-19.**

I greatly appreciate the work of the administration to protect and uphold public health, while also addressing the political, economic, and social ramifications of the COVID pandemic. However, CHCs cannot quickly administer vaccines with the current burdens of licensing and provider enrollment applications or with the limited authorized space to administer and bill for medical services.

Executive Order N-35-20 and corresponding [AFL 20-30](#) grants health centers critical flexibility to extend hours of operation, convert adjacent space (such as parking lots) to be used for vaccinations, and to set up temporary sites without the potential delays associated with a full application process.

The AFL is set to expire on March 1, 2021. Therefore, **I respectfully request the administration to extend AFL 20-30 until the end of the current Public Health Emergency to ensure CHCs utilize all available spaces to sustainably administer vaccines.**

With proper resources, CHCs can and will quickly adapt and expand services to meet the moment and lead the state vaccine plan. Thank you for your time on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry N. Tuttle".

Henry N. Tuttle
President and CEO

cc: Dr. Tomás Aragón, MD, DrPH, Director, California Department of Public Health
cc: Health Center Partners Board of Directors

[Health Center Partners of Southern California](#), a family of companies, includes a 17-membership organization of federally qualified health centers, Indian Health Services Organizations, both urban and sovereign, and Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, collectively serving 917,000 patients each year, for 3.9 million patient visits each year, at 160 practice sites across San Diego, Riverside seventh largest provider group in the region. [Read our latest Impact Report.](#)