

From: [Amberlene Hernandez](#)
To: [Clerkoftheboard](#)
Subject: RE: Agenda Item 29
Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 5:29:26 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
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Hello,

As a current Yolo County employee, I would like to address the Board regarding the ongoing discussions of potential layoffs. As a member of the Public Defender's Office—one of the smaller departments in the county—I can attest that staffing reductions would have serious consequences not only for employees, but for the community we serve.

Our office already operates with limited staff and resources, and we are continually expected to do more with the same capacity. In addition, there are frequent and ongoing legislative changes that require expanded work, increased services, and constant adaptation. Despite these growing demands, staffing levels and resources have not kept pace. Any further reduction would be detrimental to our ability to meet our obligations and effectively serve the public.

Delays in services are already a concern. Community members cannot afford to wait longer for assistance from public health, behavioral health, and other essential community services. Federal funding cuts have further strained many service providers, and reducing the workforce at the county level will only exacerbate these challenges and slow critical services even more.

There are viable alternatives to layoffs that should be carefully considered, including furloughs, golden handshakes, expanded remote work options, reduction or elimination of service contracts, and shorter work weeks. These options could help address budget concerns while preserving the workforce necessary to maintain essential services.

I urge you to fully explore these alternatives before making decisions that would significantly impact employees and the community alike.

Respectfully,

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