

From: [Lesli Guerra](#)
To: [Clerkoftheboard](#)
Subject: Public comments for BOS Meeting Agenda item 29
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 10:51:27 AM
Attachments: [Statement .docx](#)
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Good morning my name is Lesli Guerra and I'm a public assistance specialist.

I am here to ask the Board of Supervisors to carefully consider all available options before moving forward with cuts to filled positions within the service center. I understand the reality of our structural deficit and the need for these difficult decisions. However, I urge you to explore alternative options such as offering golden handshakes, implementing furloughs, cutting all vacant positions or considering revenue measures like a sales tax increase, before reducing positions that are already actively serving our community.

From the perspective of those working within HHSA, the work we do is not easily redistributed and cannot be absorbed as easily as HHSA makes it seem. HHSA is constantly understaffed and already have high caseloads that make it difficult to meet the needs of our community in a timely and effective way. Now add in the increased cost of living or the unemployment rate which has been going up the past 5 years, both which will cause a spike in applications. Further reductions to filled positions may deepen these challenges and limit our ability to serve residents who rely on our benefits to survive.

Each day, we work with individuals and families facing urgent and often overwhelming circumstances. When delays prevent us from responding as quickly as needed, it can have real and immediate impacts on people's lives. These are the moments that highlight how important it is to maintain adequate staffing and resources. HHSA has shared that these decisions ultimately rest with you, and I ask for clarity on how best to guide the public when they express concern or frustration about not receiving timely assistance.

As leaders, you carry the responsibility of making decisions that directly impact both residents and the public servants working to support them. Many HHSA employees are also members of this community, deeply invested in its success.

We all recognize that roles can change, and people can be replaced but the impact of these decisions on real lives is damaging. And to the HHSA employees, when an organization doesn't value you what's the point in staying?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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YOLO COUNTY HHSA

Service Centers