



# LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 21, 2015**

Pedro Nava  
*Chairman*

Loren Kaye  
*Vice Chairman*

David Beier

Anthony Cannella  
*Senator*

Jack Flanigan

Chad Mayes  
*Assemblymember*

Don Perata

Sebastian Ridley-Thomas  
*Assemblymember*

Richard Roth  
*Senator*

David A. Schwarz

Jonathan Shapiro

Sumi Sousa

Carole D'Elia  
*Executive Director*

**For Additional Information Contact:**

**Carole D'Elia  
Executive Director  
(916) 445-2125**

**NOTICE OF MEETING  
(REVISED WITNESS LIST AND ADDITIONAL  
BUSINESS MEETING LOCATIONS ADDED)**

On Thursday, September 24, 2015, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a public hearing on Denti-Cal, the program that provides dental care for Medi-Cal recipients. The hearing will begin at 9 a.m. in Room 437 of the State Capitol in Sacramento.

As part of this review, the Commission will examine the administrative workings of the Denti-Cal program and hear from advocates for improving Denti-Cal outcomes. The Commission also will examine impacts on Denti-Cal patients due to low dental provider participation rates and consider ideas to attract more providers and broaden the availability of care.

At the hearing the Commission will hear from two state legislators who will discuss their reasons for asking the Little Hoover Commission to review the Denti-Cal program. The Commission also will hear from a panel of representatives from the Department of Health Care Services and Delta Dental of California, who will discuss the current administration of the Denti-Cal program. Another panel will include representatives from the California Dental Association and the Children's Dental Health Clinic, who will offer the dental provider perspective on Denti-Cal. Another panel will feature a senior director of the Children's Partnership, a nonprofit child advocacy organization. She will speak about how current Denti-Cal difficulties directly impact children in California. The final panel will feature California's new State Dental Director, who will describe how the California Department of Public Health is building a plan to reduce oral health disparities among California populations.

There will be an opportunity for public comment at the end of the hearing. The Commission also encourages written comments. Immediately following the hearing, the Commission will hold a business meeting in the legislative counsel conference room located on the lower level of 925 L Street in Sacramento. Additional teleconference locations accessible to the public for the meeting are: 41608 Indian Trail, Ste. 1, Rancho Mirage, CA; 12456 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 1, Studio City, CA; and 300 Corporate Pointe, Ste. 380, Culver City, CA.

Following the business meeting, the Californians' Interactions with Government study subcommittee will meet to discuss next steps for the project. All public notices for meetings are on the Commission's website, [www.lhc.ca.gov](http://www.lhc.ca.gov). If you need reasonable



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accommodation due to a disability, please contact Commission Executive Director Carole D'Elia at (916) 445-2125 or [littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov](mailto:littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov) by Thursday, September 17, 2015.

Pedro Nava  
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**Public Hearing on Denti-Cal  
Thursday, September 24, 2015  
State Capitol, Room 437  
Sacramento**

**Public Hearing: 9:00 a.m.**

***Policymakers: Why Denti-Cal needs reform***

1. Senator Richard Pan, M.D.
2. Assemblymember Jim Wood, DDS

***Administrators: Inside California's \$1.3 Billion Denti-Cal Program***

3. Rene Mollow, Deputy Director of Health Care Benefits and Eligibility, Department of Health Care Services
4. Joe Ruiz, Vice President of State Government Programs, Delta Dental of California

***The Dental Establishment: Why Denti-Cal Isn't Working Better***

5. Dr. John Blake, Executive Director, Children's Dental Health Clinic
6. Brianna Pittman, Legislative Director, California Dental Association, and Nicette Short, Director of Public Policy, California Dental Association

***The Stakeholder Perspective: How Children Pay the Price***

7. Jenny Kattlove, Senior Director, Programs, The Children's Partnership

***The State Dental Director: Building a Plan to Reduce Disparities***

8. Dr. Jayanth V. Kumar, DDS., M.P.H., California State Dental Director, Department of Public Health

**Business Meeting  
Thursday, September 24, 2015  
Legislative Counsel Conference Room  
Lower Level, 925 L Street  
Sacramento**

**(The Commission will consider agenda items I-V at approximately 12:30 p.m. The precise time will vary depending upon the testimony of witnesses and will be determined at the discretion of the chair.) Members of the public will have an opportunity to make comments about Commission agenda items during the meeting.**

- I. Draft Report – Salton Sea
- II. Minutes from June 25, 2015, and August 27, 2015
- III. Project Selection
- IV. Implementation
- V. Reports from California State Auditor's Office