



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 13, 2010

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**BOARD APPROVES SUPERVISORS MOLINA AND RIDLEY-THOMAS’  
PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP CONTINGENCY PLAN THAT COULD ADD  
150 BEDS AT OVERCROWDED L.A. COUNTY+USC MEDICAL CENTER**

**LOS ANGELES** – The Board today approved a proposal by Supervisors Gloria Molina and Mark Ridley-Thomas to develop a detailed contingency plan to add 150 medical-surgical beds at the Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center to be implemented in the event national health care reform fails to reduce the demand for inpatient beds at the facility.

By approving the joint motion, the Board directed the County’s Chief Executive Office to work in conjunction with the Interim Director of Health Services and other appropriate County departments, to return in 90 days with a report outlining costs estimates, identifying proposed funding sources, and recommended locations where an expanded hospital wing or new tower could be located.

“When the department reports back, it would be helpful to put its report in the context of this larger setting and offer proposed strategic approaches,” Supervisor Ridley-Thomas said.

The Supervisor cited a study that found a Countywide need for inpatient beds at LAC+USC, Harbor-UCLA, Rancho Los Amigos and Olive View hospitals.

“Public policy at its best strives to match services to need, whenever possible. Contingency planning makes good sense, especially in this time of budget constraint and uncertainty” the Supervisor said.

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