

Speak Out Now at Highland

October 7th, 2026

New Law: Alameda County Has More Oversight of Alameda Health System

Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 1400 into law on September 27, 2026. The new law gives supervisors more flexibility to restructure the AHS Board of Trustees, including placing county supervisors, officers, or employees on the board.

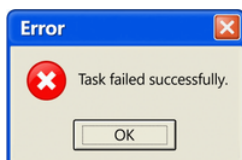
For many at Highland, this change in the law is a relief after years of frustration among county officials and healthcare unions over the arm's-length relationship between AHS and the county. That independence has repeatedly become a flashpoint during AHS financial crises and sometimes-bitter labor disputes, including this year's fight against the cuts and layoffs in Alameda Health System. This is because the unions want county supervisors to have greater influence over AHS management, while the supervisors themselves have complained that they financially support a system they have little authority over.

This new law is a welcome change, but tinkering with a broken system will most likely bare little fruit. We need a complete overhaul of this hospital, an influx of funds and resources to ensure adequate care for our patients, and a sustainable work life for staff.

AI Slop in Our Competencies

As if our annual competencies weren't already disconnected from reality, the content for nurses this year included pictures generated with disturbingly bad AI. The images were grossly anatomically incorrect, and were clearly created by a software program that had no concept of what a human body looks like.

Here in the real world, we take care of real human beings. Our patients depend on us to be able to confidently recognize the physical presentation of their medical conditions. If management really wanted to teach us what to look for in our assessments, they would be using accurate medical photography, not cheap AI slop!



**SPEAK OUT
SOCIALISTS**

**FUTURE
EVENTS**

**WED 10/21
6:30PM**

**TOWN HALL: ELECTIONS, VOTER
SUPPRESSION, & OUR RESPONSE**
Niebyl Proctor Library

**THU 10/29
6:30PM**

**PUBLIC EVENT: "WHEN THE ICE
MELTS" SCREENING**
Berkeley City College
Auditorium

**SUN 12/13
6PM**

**SPEAK OUT SOCIALISTS
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**

Compliance Isn't Competence

Our copious amounts of e-learning were just due. Do any of us actually feel like we learned anything? If you completed the trainings in the time they gave us, you certainly couldn't have actually read through everything. Most trainings required nine steps to even begin (Activate, Launch, Load course in a new window, Start Course, Enroll, >, Launch Course, Continue, START - yes *literally* nine steps), so at least half our time was spent just trying to access content!

If there are topics we should be familiar and competent on, we should be offered in person trainings. Clicking through online modules is NOT appropriate for providing us information we actually need to know.

Also these trainings need to be scheduled *during* work hours so we're not all rushing at the last minute to complete them at home. But of course they don't want to staff us enough to be able to do this. If we do choose to complete them at home, AHS needs to make the modules easily accessible. We shouldn't need to download an authentication app to be able to access educational materials!

These e-learnings make it clear that management doesn't really care about making sure we know about these important topics, they just want to check off a box that they've "trained" us. They must have learned their management skills from clicking past online modules themselves!

AHS EXECUTIVES



**Teaching
important
workplace skills
through hands-
on training**

**Having staff
click "Next" 183
times while
making dinner
at home**



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