

## Frequently Asked Questions

# The Essential Services Restoration Act for Los Angeles County General Sales Tax Measure (Measure ER)

Revised May 4, 2026

## Overview

*Measure ER* is a Los Angeles County ballot measure that will appear on the June 2, 2026 election ballot. The motion to place the ballot measure before voters was introduced by Supervisors Holly J. Mitchell, Second District, and Hilda L. Solis, First District. On February 10, 2026, the Board of Supervisors approved the ballot measure to go before voters in response to [H.R. 1](#) (One Big Beautiful Bill Act) and anticipated federal funding cuts affecting the County's healthcare system.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is Measure ER?

Measure ER is a proposed ½-cent (0.5%) increase in the Los Angeles County sales tax for five years. If approved by voters, it's estimated to generate about \$1 billion annually to support healthcare and other essential services.

Based upon current proposed allocation plans approved by the Board, about 10% of Measure ER revenue would be directed to support Public Health's efforts. This would generate an estimated \$100 million per year for Public Health, though actual funding may vary based on annual budget decisions.

### 2. Why is Measure ER being proposed?

Measure ER is intended to address significant funding losses tied to federal changes to Medi-Cal (California's Medicaid program) that are impacting LA County's healthcare system. These federal changes are projected to result in substantial revenue losses and reduced healthcare coverage for residents, increasing demand for County services, and placing pressure on hospitals, clinics, and public health programs.

Without additional funding, the County projects risks such as:

- Reductions in healthcare services
- Potential hospital and clinic impacts
- Strain on services for low-income and vulnerable residents

### 3. How much would the tax increase cost?

The tax increase would cost about \$0.50 for every \$100 spent and would raise the County sales tax rate to approximately 10.25%. Certain essential items would remain exempt from the tax, including groceries, prescription medications, and medical equipment.

### 4. How long would the tax last?

The tax would be in effect for five years only and cannot be extended without voter approval.

### 5. How would the funds be used?

Measure ER is a general tax, meaning funds go into the County's general fund. Funding is allocated annually by the Board of Supervisors through the County budget process. The County has outlined a spending plan that prioritizes healthcare services and safety-net providers, County hospitals and clinics, and public health programs.

### 6. How would accountability be ensured?

Accountability would be ensured through independent audits, public reporting, and a citizens' oversight committee to review spending.

### 7. When will voters decide on Measure ER?

Measure ER is scheduled for the June 2, 2026 election ballot.

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