



# ROBERT RIVAS

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY

December 9, 2024

Greg Adams  
Chair and Chief Executive Officer  
Kaiser Permanente  
One Kaiser Plaza, 22nd Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Adams:

Since my last letter, dated October 31, 2024, it has come to my attention that over the course of the current strike by the National Union of Healthcare Workers (NUHW), large numbers of behavioral health appointments are being cancelled across Kaiser's Southern California region, and that these reductions in vital services are having adverse impacts on Kaiser patients.

The 2023 California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) settlement agreement with Kaiser to address serious deficiencies in its delivery of behavioral health services was intended to ensure that all of Kaiser's California enrollees would maintain full access to the behavioral health services they are entitled to under California law, including in the event of a strike.

I have seen the strike contingency plan that Kaiser submitted to DMHC, and I am greatly concerned that the plan does not provide sufficient detail regarding Kaiser's arrangements to prevent widespread appointment cancellations without timely and appropriate replacement services. I have learned that patient appointments are indeed being cancelled at an alarming rate, and that these cancellations are leading to sometimes indefinite delays, or worse, denials of care.

Given this context, my undersigned colleagues and I urge you to resume good faith negotiations with NUHW as soon as possible, and to agree to the union's reasonable contract proposals in order to ensure the delivery of timely and appropriate behavioral health services to your patients.

Sincerely,

**ROBERT RIVAS**  
Speaker of the Assembly



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Dawn Addis  
California Assemblymember



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Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry  
California Assemblymember



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David A. Alvarez  
California Assemblymember



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Dr. Jasmeet Bains  
California Assemblymember



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Steve Bennett  
California Assemblymember



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Tasha Boerner  
California Assemblymember



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Mia Bonta  
California Assemblymember



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Isaac Bryan  
California Assemblymember



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Jessica Caloza  
California Assemblymember



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Lisa Calderon  
California Assemblymember

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Juan Carrillo  
California Assemblymember

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Damon Connolly  
California Assemblymember

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Sade Elhawary  
California Assemblymember

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Mike Fong  
California Assemblymember

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Jesse Gabriel  
California Assemblymember

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Robert Garcia  
California Assemblymember

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Mike A. Gipson  
California Assemblymember

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Mark González  
California Assemblymember

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Matt Haney  
California Assemblymember

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John Harabedian  
California Assemblymember



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Gregg Hart  
California Assemblymember



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Jacqui Irwin  
California Assemblymember



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Dr. Corey Jackson  
California Assemblymember



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Ash Kalra  
California Assemblymember



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Alex Lee  
California Assemblymember



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Josh Lowenthal  
California Assemblymember



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Tina McKinnor  
California Assemblymember



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Al Muratsuchi  
California Assemblymember



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Liz Ortega  
California Assemblymember



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Dr. Darshana Patel  
California Assemblymember

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Gail Pellerin  
California Assemblymember

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Cottie Petrie-Norris  
California Assemblymember

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Rhodesia Ransom  
California Assemblymember

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Pilar Schiavo  
California Assemblymember

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LaShae-Sharp-Collins  
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Catherine Stefani  
California Assemblymember

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Avelino Valencia  
California Assemblymember

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Christopher M. Ward  
California Assemblymember

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Rick Chavez Zbur  
California Assemblymember

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Sabrina Cervantes  
California State Senator