



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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County Administrator

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TO: Supervisor Mike McGowan, Chair
Members of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Sharon Jensen, County Administrator

DATE: April 21, 2009

SUBJECT: Authorize staff to submit a letter to the State Department of Social Services to request a rate change to reduce the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority individual provider wage and benefit levels to reflect the state's reduced funding participation level and change in federal participation level, subject to labor negotiations. (No general fund impact, averts over \$500,000 increase in county cost in 2009-10)

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Authorize staff to submit a letter to the State Department of Social Services to request a rate change to change the Public Authority individual provider wage and benefit levels to reflect the state's reduced funding participation level and change in federal participation level, subject to labor negotiations.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

These actions support the strategic plan goal of "financially sustainable county government" by averting an increase in local costs to backfill a decrease in state program funds.

FISCAL IMPACT

If, the county does not request a rate change, staff estimates that the county's share of provider costs for 2009-10 would increase by over \$500,000.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

This action is necessary to reflect a change in state law that reduces the state share of funding for IHSS provider wages and benefits. Absent this action the county would be responsible to finance a larger share of costs for this program.

BACKGROUND

On February 20, 2009, state legislation was enacted that reduced the level of state participation in funding of In Home Support Service provider wages and health benefits, from \$12.10 to \$10.10 per hour, effective July 1, 2009. This reduction in state funding will significantly increase the county's cost for IHSS provider wages and benefits, unless a rate change requested is submitted to the State Department of Social Services by May 1, 2009.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Staff has coordinated with the State Department of Social Services on this issue.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: State Dept. of Social Services, April 2, 2009 Letter No. 09-19.