



County of Yolo

Department of Employment and Social Services

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Pam Miller, MSW
Director

TO: Supervisor Mike McGowan, Chairman
And Members of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Pamela S. Miller, Director

DATE: July 14, 2009

SUBJECT: Notify State of deferral of Board action taken June 2, 2009, regarding In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider wage reduction for FY 2009-10, which will result in continuing the \$10.50 wage for an undetermined time. (General Fund impact: \$33,511/month in realignment costs).

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Notify State of California of intention to defer implementation of Board action taken June 2, 2009, regarding In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider wage reduction for FY 2009-10, pending resolution of court actions, or the state otherwise lawfully reduces its participation in provider wages.

FISCAL IMPACT

Continuing the previous rate of \$10.50 per hour (wages only) will result in a projected County monthly cost of \$33,511. The County will continue to participate at its normal sharing ratios with the state and federal government in the following additional costs: \$0.60/hour for health benefits, \$1.10 for state and federal taxes and \$0.32 in administrative costs, for a complete total hour wage cost of \$12.52/hour.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

Due to a preliminary court injunction of June 26, 2009, the State is prevented from moving forward with the IHSS provider wage reduction. Thus, the Board action taken June 2, 2009, regarding In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider wages needs to be deferred. Yolo County IHSS Authority submitted its rate application for FY 2009/10 on June 11, 2009. Subsequently, preliminary injunctive relief against the State was obtained which prevented the State from implementing a rate change. As a result, California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has informed the Yolo County IHSS Authority that the State will not be reducing the maximum participation in wages and benefits. If action is not taken to defer our rate change until a resolution of the pending court action the County would be required to backfill the lost state participation, which would increase the County's share of the wages.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On May 1, 2009, CDSS provided counties with information regarding a reduction in the IHSS provider rate amount from \$12.10 per hour (including \$0.60 per hour for benefits) to \$10.10 per hour (including \$0.60 per hour for benefits) effective July 1, 2009. CDSS required counties to submit a letter of intent if the county intended to change their provider wage.

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors approved a provider rate change from \$10.50 per hour to \$9.50 per hour on June 2, 2009, and notification was provided to CDSS.

However, on June 26, 2009, a preliminary injunction was obtained which prevented the State from implementing a provider wage reduction. As a result, the State has informed counties that it will not be reducing the maximum state participation in wages and benefits for these providers.

Yolo County is required to again submit to CDSS our intentions relative to a change in our provider wages.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

IHSS Public Authority