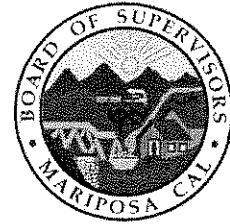




MARIPOSA COUNTY

Health • (209) 966-3689



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2013-234

MEETING: June 11, 2013

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charles Mosher, Health Officer

RE: Letter to State Legislature Regarding Impact to Health Realignment Fund

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Authorize Chair to Sign Letter to Darrell Steinberg and John Pérez of the State Legislature Regarding Budget Impact to Health Realignment Fund. The Governor has recommended, in his budget revision, taking some of the Health Realignment Funds which are critical to Health Department function, to use in implementation of expanded Medi-Cal coverage.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has authorized the Chairman to sign letters on issues they believe are critical to the well-being of the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not authorize the Chairman to sign the letter. Individual Board members may write their own letters, which may not carry the weight of a letter supported by the Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter - State CMSP County Opposition Letter-5-24-13 (DOC)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended


Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

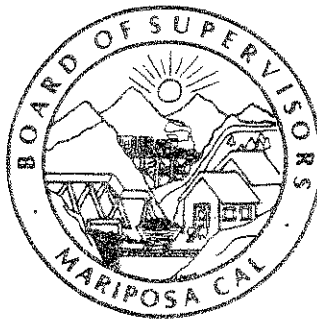
MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

SECONDER: John Carrier, District V Supervisor

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 LEE STETSON
District 2 MERLIN JONES
District 3 JANET BIBBY
District 4 KEVIN CANN
District 5 JOHN CARRIER



RICHARD J. BENSON
County Administrative Officer

RENÉ LA ROCHE
Clerk of the Board

P. O. Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338
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www.mariposacounty.org/board

June 11, 2013

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg
President pro Tempore of the California Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Pérez
Speaker of the California Assembly
777 S. Figueroa St. Suite #4050
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear President pro Tempore Steinberg and Speaker Pérez:

Re: Budget Item 4260: Department of Health Care Services – Medi-Cal
Expansion & County Health Realignment Funding

In his May Revision for the FY 2013-14 State Budget, the Governor proposes to take \$300 million in County Health Realignment funds from counties in FY 2013-14 and redirect these funds to pay for State social services program costs. Under his proposal, the amount taken from County Health Realignment provided to counties would increase to \$900 million in FY 2014-15 and \$1.3 billion in FY 2015-16. The Governor suggests these amounts are “savings” that result from implementation of the Medi-Cal expansion under the federal Affordable Care Act.

The County of Mariposa strongly opposes the Governor’s proposal and encourages the Legislature to reject it.

The Governor’s proposal would result in the wholesale redirection of County Health Realignment funding to the State. If taken, this action would leave Mariposa County and other Counties that participate in the County Medical Services Program (CMSP) with no funds for health care services to remaining low income uninsured populations and no funds for essential County public health responsibilities.

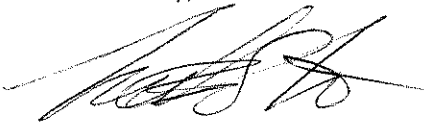
In lieu of the Governor's proposal, Mariposa County supports the alternative approach put forward by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and supported by the CMSP Governing Board. This alternative approach calls for:

1. No redirection of County Health Realignment funds to the State from CMSP Counties and the CMSP Governing Board for FY 2013-14 and FY 2014-15.
2. For 2015-16 and each fiscal year thereafter, a cap on the amount of County Health Realignment funds redirected from CMSP Counties to the State that is equal to the amounts specified in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 16809(j)(2) for each CMSP County and no redirection of any other County Health Realignment funds or other county funds to the State.
3. For 2015-16 and each fiscal year thereafter, the CMSP Governing Board shall retain sufficient County Health Realignment funds to provide health benefit coverage to the remaining low income uninsured populations in Mariposa County and other CMSP Counties and funding for needed reinvestment in the health care, behavioral health and public health infrastructures in this County and other CMSP counties.

The alternative approach outlined above would achieve both the Governor's goal and protect essential County Health Realignment funds provided for health care services to the remaining low income uninsured and essential county public health responsibilities.

Thank you for your consideration of Mariposa County's position on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Lee Stetson,
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Jerry Brown, Governor