



Health & Human Services Agency COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: August 27, 2024 - REVISED

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Patrick Hamblin PHONE: 559-624-8081

SUBJECT: Approve an agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services to ensure the security and privacy of Medi-Cal Personally Identifiable Information effective September 1, 2024, through September 1, 2028.
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign three (3) copies of the agreement.
3. Direct the Health and Human Services Agency to provide the final executed agreement to the Clerk of the Board.

SUMMARY:

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is requiring revised agreements with every county to ensure the security and privacy of Medi-Cal Personally Identifiable Information (PII) used by County Welfare Departments. The Federal Social Security Administration (SSA) requires that DHCS enter into these agreements to safeguard client PII & SSA information that may be viewed during the Medi-Cal eligibility determination process. This agreement covers the County of Tulare, Health and Human Services Agency, which may access, use, or disclose Medi-Cal PII during the administration of the Medi-Cal program. The Tulare County Board of Supervisors (Board) approved agreement No. 29377 on September 10, 2019. Agreement No. 29377-A was approved by the Board on January 31, 2023. Agreement No. 29377-A expired on March 1, 2024. This agreement will replace Agreement No. 29377-A. Approximately half of the residents in Tulare County receive some level of health coverage through the Medi-Cal program.

The following terms from the original agreement deviate substantively from the standard County boilerplate: 1) the County signs first; 2) The State may terminate the agreement

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with a 30-day notice if the County fails to promptly enter into negotiations to amend the agreement when requested by the State or does not enter into an amendment the State deems necessary; 3) All provisions of the agreement providing restrictions on disclosure of Medi-Cal PII and providing administrative, technical, and physical safeguards for PII in the County's possession shall continue in effect beyond the termination or expiration of this agreement and shall continue until PII is destroyed or returned to DHCS; and 4) the term of this agreement is four (4) years.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There are no program or net County costs associated with this agreement.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life Initiative to link eligible children to no-cost or low-cost healthcare coverage. As we continue to work toward that goal by providing health coverage to the families of Tulare County, this agreement allows us to remain vigilant about protecting their privacy during the administration of the Medi-Cal program.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/Robert C. Stewart OBO
Donna Ortiz
Agency Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Agreement