

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 5/11/06
Department Name: DSS
Department No.: 044
Agenda Date: 5/23/06
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kathy Gallagher
Department of Social Services

STAFF CONTACT: Davida Willis
x 1251

SUBJECT: Approval of New State Rate for the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Approve the new State rate for the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority, and
- 2) Direct the Department of Social Services to submit the new rate request to the Department of Health Services, State of California.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The new State rate for the IHSS Public Authority includes the new wage of \$10.00 per hour for the In-Home Supportive Services caregivers effective July 1, 2006, and is aligned with the Board of Supervisors' strategic plan goal number II.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Directors of the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority approved a new State rate for the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority. The new rate included a wage of \$9.00 per hour for the IHSS caregivers to be effective January 1, 2006. The MOU with United Domestic Workers calls for a further wage increase to \$10 per hour effective July 1, 2006. The increased caregiver wage requires the Public Authority to submit a new rate request to the State of California, Department of Health Services. The rate itself includes the hourly wage, payroll taxes, health and dental benefits, and a reimbursement to the Public Authority for its' expenses. The Public Authority's new rate will be \$11.95 cents per hour.

Procedurally, the Board of Directors' approved the new rate on May 9, 2006. It now requires approval by the Board of Supervisors, who then directs the Department of Social Services to submit the rate request to the State of California.

Mandates and Service Levels:

The IHSS Public Authority is mandated by the State to be, among other mandated duties, the employer of record for the IHSS caregivers for the purpose of negotiating for wages and benefits.

There is no change to the level of service.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The wage increase is part of the 06-07 budget. Approval of the rate request would authorize the Department of Social Services to seek approval from the DHS for a Public Authority rate of \$11.95 per hour. This rate will determine the maximum level of expenditure reimbursement the Department will receive from the California Department of Social Services. The rate of \$11.95 will be sufficient to cover the Federal and State portion of these costs. The mandated county portion of the cost of these programs is approximately 18%. This amount as well as the need appropriations for FY 06-07 has been included in our FY 06-07 recommended budget.

Special Instructions:

Please send one copy of the minute order to Laura Mejia, In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority.

Attachments:

Rate request documents