



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

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

Department Name: Social Services
Department No.: 044
For Agenda Of: 06/23/09
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Kathy Gallagher, 681-4451
Director(s)
Contact Info: Terrie Concellos, 681-4620

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Social Services Director to Execute Agreements with the State for Reimbursement of Interim Assistance Payments

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: Select_Concurrence

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of the Department of Social Services to enter into and execute agreements and any subsequent amendments with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for Reimbursement of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Interim Assistance payments.

Summary Text:

The County Department of Social Services provides Interim Assistance payments to persons whose eligibility determination for Supplemental Security Income benefits is pending. Once SSI is authorized, the agreement with CDSS provides for the return of those payments made by the Department through the General Relief program on behalf of the SSI eligible recipient. CDSS has requested a revised agreement for reimbursement to replace one dated 07/01/89. The agreement allows for the reimbursement of Interim Assistance payments pursuant to Section 1631(g) of the Social Security Act.

Background:

Public Law 93-368 was enacted to permit the Social Security Administration to provide reimbursement of SSI payments to states and local governments in order to ensure availability of assistance to SSI/SSP applicants to meet their basic needs while eligibility is being determined. This law further requires that

CDSS enter into an agreement with counties to provide for disbursement of federal funds for this purpose.

Performance Measure:

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

In FY 2007-08 the County was reimbursed by CDSS for \$267,000 of SSI qualified benefits originally paid for with General Fund dollars. Without this agreement, the County General Fund would have been obligated to pay for the full amount of those benefits. Having this agreement in place allows the County to be reimbursed hundreds of thousands of dollars, relieving the County General Fund of the expense.

As of March, 2009, the County has been reimbursed over \$100,000 for SSI qualified benefits paid for with General Fund dollars. The Department estimates the total reimbursement for FY 08-09 at approximately \$129,000. The estimated amount of reimbursement for FY 09-10 is also approximately \$129,000.

As these reimbursements are factored in the Department's budget, loss of these reimbursements would create a shortfall commensurate with budgeted reimbursement amounts.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

After execution by the Chair, please return one (1) copy of the resolution and (1) certified copy of the minute order to Diana Klopp, Department of Social Services.

Attachments: Board Resolution
Agreement with CDSS for Reimbursement of Interim Assistance Payments

Authored by:

Diana Klopp