

11-0762



County of Los Angeles
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June 1, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer *WTF*

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum contains an update of actions taken by budget subcommittees; two pursuits of County position on legislation related to the commercial manufacture, sale, or distribution of Bisphenol A in products intended for children three years of age or younger and to authorize HIV counselors to perform skin punctures for hepatitis C virus tests; a change in pursuit of County position on legislation related to smoking cessation services; an update on County-sponsored legislation regarding reimbursement for medical treatment of juveniles; and **information on a proposed City of Los Angeles ordinance related to community care facilities.**

State Budget

On May 27, 2011, Assembly Budget Subcommittees took action on the following items of interest to the County:

- **Restoration of the Maddy Emergency Medical Services Fund.** Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health and Human Services adopted the Governor's May Revision proposal to restore \$55.0 million for the Maddy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund. This action conforms to the action taken by the Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Health and Human Services on May 26, 2011. The action taken by both subcommittees would result in maintaining approximately \$5.1 million in Maddy EMS funding for the County.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Change in Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

County-supported SB 136 (Yee), which as introduced on January 31, 2011, would have required health care services plans and individual or group health insurance policies to provide coverage for smoking cessation services was amended on April 28, 2011 to delete these provisions. As amended, SB 136 would extend the sunset date on permitting the use of store and forward technology for teledermatology and teleophthalmology services. Therefore, **the Sacramento advocates will remove support for SB 136 and take no position on this measure.**

Status of County-Sponsored Legislation

County-sponsored SB 396 (Mitchell), which as amended on May 12, 2011, would allow counties and the Division of Juvenile Facilities with the State Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to obtain Federal matching funds to seek reimbursement for the cost of medical treatment for minors who are hospitalized and outside of a juvenile detention facility for more than 24 hours, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 72 to 0 on May 26, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate.

City of Los Angeles Proposed Ordinance Relating to Community Care Facilities

On June 1, 2011, the Los Angeles City Council will consider an ordinance to update the Los Angeles Municipal Code regarding licensed community care facilities to conform to State law and to create a distinction between family residences and boarding/rooming houses.

One provision in the proposed ordinance would define a single housing unit in the City of Los Angeles as one household in which all members live under a single lease agreement either written or oral. **The Department of Mental Health (DMH) indicates that this definition may impact the Department's ability to locate and secure permanent housing for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.** DMH notes that individual lease agreements allow clients to directly negotiate with landlords if reasonable accommodations are needed for mental health or physical disabilities. DMH states that individual leases often promote an environment of recovery for persons with mental illnesses.

The Community Development Commission (CDC) indicates that proposed definition of a single housing unit would classify non-licensed, shared living arrangements, including supportive housing such as boarding or rooming houses, making these living

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arrangements illegal in low-density residential neighborhoods. According to CDC, if the ordinance is implemented, it would narrow the independent housing with supportive services for homeless and special needs individuals who do not require placement in licensed facilities, thus reducing the availability of this needed housing option.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR:VE:lm

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants