



AGENDA ITEM NO.
C-7

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: April 11, 2017

Date: March 29, 2017
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Amy S. Nilsen, County Administrative Officer *AN*
Subject: Modification to federal legislative platform

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt a modification to the federal legislative platform titled "Protect Federal Investment in Medicaid"

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund and 1991 Realignment Fund

DISCUSSION:

On March 28, 2017 your Board chose to modify the county's federal legislative platform "Protect Federal Investment in Medicaid" to ensure that advocacy efforts would also include protection of small businesses. Currently, under the Affordable Care Act businesses with 50 or more full-time (or full-time equivalent) employees must offer health coverage to their employees. This can be cost-prohibitive for small businesses as they consider hiring more employees and expanding operations. Therefore, the platform has been

Prepared by Sean Quincey _____ CAO Approval *Erickson Hayes*
REVIEW: Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Human Resources _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor *Wilson* Seconded by Supervisor *Fennell*
Ayes *Wilson, Fennell, Sundberg, Bass, Bohn*
Nays
Abstain
Absent

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:
Board Order No. I-2
Meeting of: 3/28/17

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.
Dated: April 11, 2017
By: *[Signature]*
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

amended to include the following language with a portion *underlined and italicized* to note the addition:

PROTECT FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN MEDICAID

Counties are the health care provider of last resort for the state’s indigent population under California welfare and institutions code section 17000. Currently, the Medicaid program provides health coverage for more than 50,000 low-income Humboldt County residents. Proposals to repeal the Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act of 2010 and to limit federal investment in the program via state block grants or fixed state allotments would further increase financial risk for counties.

The county supports continuing the current structure of federal investment for the Medicaid program *while protecting small businesses* and opposes measures that would reduce access to this important safety net program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is minimal cost involved in modifying this federal platform. However, the financial impact of protecting small businesses when it comes to delivering healthcare can be significant for those businesses.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Department of Health & Human Services

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board can choose to modify the platform “Protect Federal Investment in Medicaid.”

ATTACHMENTS:

None