



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 23-244, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors  
**From:** DHHS: Behavioral Health  
**Agenda Section:** Consent  
**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Reciprocal Transfer Agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC Regarding the Transfer of Patients between Treatment Facilities Located in Humboldt County

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, and authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute, the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC regarding the transfer of patients between treatment facilities located in Humboldt County for the period of March 21, 2023 through June 30, 2024;
2. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to provide the Department of Health and Human Services - Contract Unit with one (1) fully executed certified copy of the Board Order related to this item.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Behavioral Health Fund (1170-424)

**DISCUSSION:**

On September 3, 2019 (Item C-9), the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors approved the previous reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC regarding the transfer of patients between the parties' respective treatment facilities for the period of October 9, 2019 through June 30, 2022. The attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC defines the procedures for transferring and returning patients from the County of Humboldt's psychiatric health facility, Redwood Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph Hospital of Eureka for the period of March 21, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Accordingly, the Department of Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health ("DHHS -

Behavioral Health”) recommends that the Board approve, and authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute, the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC regarding the transfer of patients between treatment facilities located in Humboldt County for the period of March 21, 2023 through June 30, 2024. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the DHHS - Behavioral Health Director, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC, after review and approval by County Counsel, Risk Management and the County Administrative Office, in order to avoid any unnecessary delays in the transfer of patients between the parties’ respective treatment facilities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC includes county financial responsibility for certain uninsured patient care scenarios as well as financial responsibility for client transport to and from Hospital. Expenditure appropriations have been included in the approved fiscal year 2022-2023 budget for DHHS-Behavioral Health Administration budget unit 1170-424. Funding for the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC through Behavioral Health Realignment and other local, state and federal revenues received by DHHS - Behavioral Health. As a result, approval of the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC will not impact the Humboldt County General Fund.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There are not direct staffing impacts associated with the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

The recommended actions support the Board of Supervisors Strategic Framework by protecting vulnerable populations, creating opportunities for the improvement of safety and health and providing community-appropriate levels of service.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve the attached reciprocal transfer agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC regarding the transfer of patients between treatment facilities located in Humboldt County. However, this alternative is not recommended since it could result in patient care issues and a lack of compliance with applicable local, state, and/or federal laws, regulations and standards.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Reciprocal Transfer Agreement with St. Joseph Health Northern California, LLC Regarding the Transfer of Patients Between Treatment Facilities Located in Humboldt County

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Board Order No.: C-9

Meeting of: 09/03/2019

File No.: 19-1115