



Agenda Date: 6/14/2005
Agenda Placement: 6F

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Shelli Brobst for Randolph F. Snowden - Director
Health & Human Services
REPORT BY: Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst, 253-4720
SUBJECT: Declaration of Intent for Rural Health Services for Emergency Medical Services Appropriation

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the Declaration of Intent and Standard Agreement with the Department of Health Services for an Emergency Medical Services Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the Emergency Medical Services Appropriation (EMSA), Senate Bill 2132 (2000), reauthorized under the Health Trailer Bill, Chapter 171, Statutes of 2001, funds are available to Rural Health Services Counties for the reimbursement of uncompensated emergency services. HHSA is requesting funds for services provided in Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Annual State Emergency Medical Services Allocation to reimburse Counties for uncompensated emergency care. Napa County will receive approximately \$105,000 of which \$86,000 will go to hospitals and \$19,000 to emergency physicians.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	These funds are Napa County's portion of the annual State Emergency Medical Services Allocation to cover uncompensated emergency care. Napa County is entitled to these funds from the State of California at no cost to the

	County.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	None
Consequences if not approved:	Funds will go into a larger State pool and Napa County physicians and hospitals will not be guaranteed reimbursement.
Additional Information:	None

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

SB 2132 appropriates Proposition 99 Tobacco Tax money through the California Healthcare for Indigents Program and the Rural Health Services Program accounts to provide reimbursement for uncompensated emergency services provided by physicians to the indigent population in the current fiscal year. These funds are in addition to the County-operated Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund, which is funded by fines for traffic violations.

Counties defined as "Rural Health Services Counties" have the option to receive Emergency Medical Services Appropriations (EMSA) directly or through the EMSA Contract Back Program. In the past the County has chosen to contract back the funds to the state, in which case they go into a larger State pool to be used to reimburse emergency physicians and hospitals for uncompensated emergency care. This year HHSA recommends that the County accept the funds directly and be responsible for disbursing them to local emergency physicians and hospitals to insure that the funds allocated to Napa County go to local hospitals and physicians. (If funds were contracted back Napa County physicians and hospitals would not be guaranteed reimbursement for care.)

The County will be responsible for enrolling physicians in our County, determining whether the services provided meet the criteria for the program funds, and reporting to the State on how the funds were disbursed. This process is similar to what HHSA is already doing with Emergency Medical Services Trust Funds. Napa County can claim up to ten percent of the funds for administrative costs.

The declaration of intent and standard contract constitute Napa County's agreement to accept the funds.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Meegan Condon