



Agenda Date: 9/20/2005  
Agenda Placement: 6C

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**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 and Standard Agreement for Rural Health Services for Emergency Medical Services Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2005-2006

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### **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 2005-2006 for the reimbursement of uncompensated emergency services.

### **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 2005-2006.

### **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:	A budget transfer will be completed when the State confirms the actual amount the County of Napa will receive.

### **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. Napa County is designated as a Rural Health County and is entitled to receive these funds regardless of whether they accept the Rural Health Services funding or choose to contract back with the State. 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 the funds go into a State pool to be used to reimburse emergency physicians and hospitals for uncompensated emergency care. In Fiscal Year 2004-2005 the County accepted the funds directly and was responsible for disbursing them to local emergency physicians and hospitals to ensure 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 is responsible for enrolling Napa County physicians, 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 the process HHSA uses for 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: Lorenzo Zialcita