Health Services
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To ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost-effective health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners.

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March 14, 2014

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: for Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

SUBJECT: **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES' REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF THE MARCH 18, 2014 BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

This is to request a postponement of the March 18, 2014 Budget Committee of the Whole report by the Department of Health Services to the Board to the next presentation scheduled for July 1, 2014.

Since the January 1, 2014 implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Department has been closely monitoring a number of factors at its facilities including, e.g., payer mix and utilization, in order to determine what impact the ACA is having on the Department's finances.

ACA implementation is still in its earliest stages and initial data appears positive; however, the Department requires more data than it currently has in order to develop reasonable, fact-based projections of what the fiscal impact of the ACA is on the Department. For this reason, we are requesting that the March 18, 2014 Budget Committee of the Whole report be postponed until July 1, 2014. The additional time will allow the Department to collect and analyze at least a few months' worth of data, which will be used to inform our projections.

The Department will present the Board with updated projections for Fiscal Years 2013-14 and 2014-15 in the next Budget Committee of the Whole report.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

MHK:aw

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors