

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

November 16, 2010

**Maximizing the County’s Ability to Transform its Public Health System
through the Medicaid Waiver**

The Center on Medicare and Medicaid Services’ (CMS) recent approval of California’s \$10 billion dollar Medicaid waiver provides an unprecedented and time-limited opportunity for Los Angeles County to improve and transform its public health system. The Chief Executive Office, Department of Health Services, Department of Public Health and Department of Mental Health should be praised for their hard work and efforts to negotiate favorable terms and conditions.

Over the next 60 days, the County will need to quickly finalize important details that will set how this waiver will be implemented. Thereafter, the County will need to swiftly restructure its health delivery system in order to maximize federal financing while improving patient care. The challenge will be daunting, especially in these times of budget constraints. The impact could have far-reaching and long-lasting repercussions on the County’s medical, mental health and substance abuse services system as well as the health care workforce.

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RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

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THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Chief Executive Officer, the Interim Director of the Department of Health Services, the Director of Mental Health and the Director of Public Health to:

1) Report back to this Board on its proposed plan to implement the waiver. This report back should include:

- a. A description of the proposed Los Angeles County Low Income Health Programs. This report back should include a description of a proposed scope of health, mental health and alcohol and drug benefits, eligibility requirements, enrollment, disenrollment and redetermination procedures or limitations, as well as a plan to identify and move eligible residents into coverage as efficiently as possible.
- b. A description of the proposed payment methodology to private community clinics, and hospital partners, and any other providers that will be included in the County's waiver program. This report back should include a description of how these payments will encourage and reward best practices and will ensure an adequate network of providers exists.
- c. A description of the County's proposed protocols for the \$600 - \$700 million dollar annual performance-based Incentive Payment Pool intended to help public health delivery systems prepare for health reform in 2014. This report should include the County's proposed performance measures around infrastructure development, innovation and redesign, population-focused

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- improvements and urgent improvements to care.
- d. A description of the County's plans to draw down the Safety Net Care Pool uncompensated care funds. This report should include a description of the County's plans to fund coverage for individuals between 133% and 200% of the federal poverty level, to sustain payments to providers until the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital is fully operational and to claim federal financing for workforce development programs funded by community colleges and universities;
 - e. A description of the County's efforts to partner with LA Care to move seniors and persons with disabilities into managed care;
 - f. A description of the County's plan to prepare its workforce to implement the waiver, including workforce manpower shortage areas, workforce training needs, and flexibility needed to better align existing resources to the rapidly changing environment;
 - g. A description of the County's most pressing outside technical assistance needs to ensure the County can immediately take advantage of this waiver. This report should include a description of the expertise needed to enable the County to better integrate mental health and alcohol and drug related services with federal financing;
 - h. A description of enrollment, revenue and expenditure projections;
 - i. A description of the County's proposed plan to regularly monitor its effort,

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including any need to establish a waiver oversight office; and

- j. An implementation timeline for system and infrastructure developments needed to comply with milestones and expectations established by the waiver.

2) Report back in 30 days and monthly thereafter.

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