Temporarily Waiving General Relief Terminations for Residents in the Fire Impacted Areas

The Eaton, Palisades, Hurst, and Hughes wildfires have had a catastrophic effect on communities, causing immeasurable destruction and trauma. Among those most profoundly impacted are individuals and families who receive public assistance. The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has moved quickly, in partnership with State officials, to obtain additional resources for their fire-impacted customers, including mass replacement of CalFresh benefits and issuing maximum allotments of CalFresh grants, as well as advancing renewal deadlines for CalFresh, CalWORKs and Medi-Cal recipients. We must also take similar action on behalf of those impacted by the fires who receive benefits under our County's General Relief (GR) program. A number of GR participants will soon have their case terminated due to failure to submit their Annual Renewals (AR) and they may not have the ability to meet the AR requirements to keep their aid, due to the profound disruption caused by the wildfires.

I believe that we must offer relief wherever we can. By waiving terminations for those receiving GR and for those who reside in the fire impacted areas, it would bring additional peace of mind for those most profoundly impacted by this unprecedented natural disaster.

MOTION

SOLIS	
MITCHELL	
HORVATH	
HAHN	
BARGER	

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Director of Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to temporarily waive terminations of General Relief (GR) cases for those receiving GR who reside in fire impacted areas to ensure they will continue to receive resources during this challenging time. In alignment with State and Federal relief, the termination waiver will be in effect from January 31, 2025 through March 30, 2025.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that DPSS work in collaboration with the CEO to identify the funding necessary to do so.

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JH:mk