



COUNTY OF SONOMA

575 ADMINISTRATION
DRIVE, ROOM 102A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

SUMMARY REPORT

Agenda Date: 12/12/2023

To: County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors
Department or Agency Name(s): Department of Health Services
Staff Name and Phone Number: Tina Rivera, 707-565-4774
Vote Requirement: Majority
Supervisorial District(s): Countywide

Title:

Amendment to Chapter 34 of the Sonoma County Code - County Organized Health System - First Reading

Recommended Action:

Adopt a resolution introducing, reading the title of, and waiving further reading of a proposed ordinance revision to Chapter 34 of the Sonoma County Code to revise the formula used to determine the number of Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission seats per county and to align the Sonoma County Code with the revised Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission Bylaws.

Executive Summary:

The Department of Health Services (hereinafter, "DHS" or "the Department") is proposing revisions to Chapter 34 of the Sonoma County Code, County Organized Health System, to align with the expansion of the Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission into additional member counties. The Commission is a multi-county commission that provides for a managed healthcare plan for Medi-Cal recipients. Adoption of the ordinance confirms the Board's approval for continued participation in the Commission with updated terms as set forth in the ordinance. The Commission's expansion to additional member counties is expected to occur on or about January 1, 2024.

Discussion:

On August 23, 2023, the Partnership HealthPlan of California Board of Commissioners approved revised bylaws to align with the California Department of Health Care Services 2024 contract and National Committee for Quality Assurance standards.

The Department is proposing an ordinance amending Chapter 34 to remain consistent with Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission (hereinafter, "Commission" or "the Commission") bylaws and their formula granting Commission member seats. Adoption of the ordinance confirms the Board's approval for the continued participation of the County of Sonoma in the Commission with updated terms as set forth in the ordinance. The Commission's expansion to additional member counties is expected to occur on or about January 1, 2024.

The Commission is a multi-county commission that provides for a managed healthcare plan for Medi-Cal recipients. Implementation of a county organized health system is authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14087.54. In September 2009, the Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County approved an ordinance adding Chapter 34 to the Sonoma County Code, authorizing the County to join the Commission.

The Commission is comprised of representatives from Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Modoc, Marin,

Mendocino, Napa, Solano, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Trinity, and Yolo counties and provides coverage to over 650,000 Medi-Cal enrollees, including over 100,000 current Medi-Cal enrollees in Sonoma County.

This ordinance revision includes the following changes:

- Clarifying the Commission negotiated a contract with the California Department of Health Care Services, as specified in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14087.5, to arrange for the provision of health care services provided under Welfare and Institutions Code Chapter 7, Part 3, Division 9, as well as clarifying that the Commission is authorized to negotiate a contract with the California Department of Health Care Services to expand the Commission into additional member counties. The expansion is expected to occur on or about January 1, 2024.
- Revising the formula for membership in the Commission to those appointed by the Board of Supervisors of each member county, unless and until the Commission, by formal action, establishes a different formula or system of membership, and updating the composition of the Commission as follows:
 1. 0-45,000 Medi-Cal beneficiaries within a county equals one Commission seat.
 2. 45,001-60,000 Medi-Cal beneficiaries within a county equals two Commission seats.
 3. 60,001+ Medi-Cal beneficiaries within a county equals three Commission seats.

Commission Seats	Existing Formula (# of Medi-Cal Beneficiaries)	Revised Formula (# of Medi-Cal Beneficiaries)
1	0 - 25,000	0 - 45,000
2	25,001 - 40,000	45,001 - 60,000
3	40,001 - 55,000	60,001+
4	55,001 or more	N/A

- Defining the Commissioner selection criteria and encouraging the County to consider selecting Commissioners from the following settings:
 1. Safety net providers (including providers at federally qualified health centers).
 2. Behavioral health providers.
 3. Regional center providers.
 4. Local education authorities.
 5. Dental providers.
 6. Indian Health Service facility providers.
 7. Hospital providers with special efforts to select candidates as opportunity allows, who reflect the diversity of the community and regions (including, but not limited to race, ethnicity, language, and disability status).
- Adjusting the term of office to add language stating that at the conclusion of a member's term, the Commission member shall remain in office until a successor member has been selected and installed into office.

- Adjusting the term of office to add language stating that an office shall become vacant if a Commissioner ceases to function in the area from which appointed or fails to attend three (3) Commission meetings in a row.
- Clarifying the obligation of the Commission is to conduct business as Partnership HealthPlan of California.
- Adding new termination of membership language to read the Commission shall continue to represent the County of Sonoma until such time as the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors terminates the representation and clarifying the means of terminating the representation by providing ninety (90)-days' notice to other member counties and the California Department of Health Care Services, as specified in Welfare and Institutions Code § 14087.54(g).

The current ordinance formula equates to four (4) seats for the County of Sonoma, with current commissioner appointment selection criteria as follows:

- (1) One (1) member shall be a community clinic representative identified by the Redwood Community Health Coalition (clinic representative).
- (2) One (1) member shall be a hospital representative from a Sonoma County hospital identified by the hospitals in Sonoma County (hospital representative).
- (3) One (1) member shall be the Director of the Sonoma County Department of Health Services or designee (county official).
- (4) One (1) member from the community (public representative).

Future projections, utilizing the revised formula, would equate to three (3) seats for the County of Sonoma. Updated Commission bylaws include language to allow for seats lost due to the implementation of the updated representation formula to be depleted using the process of attrition, which allows a lost seat to be vacated one year after the adoption of the updated formula or on the seat's natural expiration date, whichever occurs first.

Current Commission Seats	Commissioner	Term	On Commission Since
1 - Clinic Representative	Kathryn Powell	5/22/2020 - 5/21/2024	5/22/2012
2 - Hospital Representative	Vacant	N/A	N/A
3 - County Official	Tina Rivera	5/21/2021 - 5/20/2024	5/21/2021
4 - Public Representative	Cathryn Couch	1/1/2021 - 12/31/2024	1/1/2021

The hospital representative seat was last occupied by Mary Kay Brooks, whose term ended on May 21, 2022. The seat has remained vacant since the end of Ms. Brooks' term.

In order to bring Sonoma County into alignment with the new formula for membership in the Commission, the Department recommends the hospital representative seat be deleted, as the seat is currently the only vacant seat, and the commissioner appointment selection criteria be updated as follows to reflect the three (3) seats the revised formula allows:

- (1) One (1) member shall be a community clinic representative identified by the Redwood

Community Health Coalition (clinic representative).

(2) One (1) member shall be the Director of the Sonoma County Department of Health Services or designee (county official).

(3) One (1) member from the community (public representative).

Updated Commission Seats	Commissioner	Term	On Commission Since
1 - Clinic Representative	Kathryn Powell	5/22/2020 - 5/21/2024	5/22/2012
2 - County Official	Tina Rivera	5/21/2021 - 5/20/2024	5/21/2021
3 - Public Representative	Cathryn Couch	1/1/2021 - 12/31/2024	1/1/2021

Strategic Plan:

This item directly supports the County’s Five-year Strategic Plan and is aligned with the following pillar, goal, and objective.

Pillar: Healthy and Safe Communities

Goal: Goal 1: Expand integrated system of care to address gaps in services to the County’s most vulnerable.

Objective: Objective 2: Better integrate services and handoffs within the Safety Net departments.

Racial Equity:

Was this item identified as an opportunity to apply the Racial Equity Toolkit?

No

Prior Board Actions:

On November 10, 2015, the Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance amending Chapter 34 of the Sonoma County Code to revise the formula used to determine the number of Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission seats per county and to align the Sonoma County Code with the revised Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission Bylaws.

In September 2009, the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance adding Chapter 34 of the Sonoma County Code to authorize the County to join an existing commission entitled Partnership HealthPlan of California, comprised of Napa, Solano, and Yolo counties, that arranges for the provision of health care services for Medi-Cal enrollees.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures	FY23-24 Adopted	FY24-25 Projected	FY25-26 Projected
Budgeted Expenses			
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures	0	0	0
Funding Sources			

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General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal			
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
General Fund Contingencies			
Total Sources	0	0	0

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this item.

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

N/A

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Resolution
- Attachment 2 - Ordinance (redline version)
- Attachment 3 - Ordinance (clean version)
- Attachment 4 - Partnership HealthPlan of California Commission Bylaws
- Attachment 5 - PowerPoint Presentation

Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:

None