



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2020-0233, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County  
**Department or Agency Name(s):** Department of Health Services  
**Staff Name and Phone Number:** Barbie Robinson, 565-7876  
**Vote Requirement:** Majority  
**Supervisorial District(s):** Countywide

**Title:**

Interim Health Officer Appointment

**Recommended Action:**

- A) Adopt a resolution appointing Dr. Sundari Mase to the position of Interim Health Officer for the County of Sonoma effective March 10, 2020.
- B) Authorize the Director of Health Services to execute an agreement with Dr. Sundari Mase to provide Interim Health Officer services in an amount not-to-exceed \$200,000 through September 1, 2020.

**Executive Summary:**

The Board of Supervisors appoints the County Health Officer in accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 101000. The Health Officer reports to the Board through the Director of Health Services. The County Health Officer provides leadership for the protection of public health, enforcement of public health regulations, and serves as an advisor to elected and appointed officials, members of the medical profession, and the public on matters affecting health and safety.

Dr. Celeste Philip, who was appointed County Health Officer on April 9, 2019, has notified the County of her resignation, effective March 16, 2020. In addition, the position of Deputy Health Officer has been vacant since mid-January. As such, the County has an immediate need to appoint an Interim Health Officer pending recruitments to fill these positions.

This item requests adoption of a resolution appointing Dr. Sundari Mase to the position of Interim Health Officer for the County of Sonoma. In addition, this item requests approval to execute an agreement with Dr. Sundari Mase for Interim Health Officer services. If approved, Dr. Mase will assume the role of Interim Health Officer on March 10, 2020.

**Discussion:**

The Board of Supervisors appoints the County Health Officer in accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 101000. The Health Officer reports to the Board through the Director of Health Services. The County Health Officer provides leadership for the protection of public health, enforcement of public health regulations, and serves as an advisor to elected and appointed officials, members of the medical profession, and the public on matters affecting health and safety.

Dr. Celeste Philip, who was appointed County Health Officer on April 9, 2019, has notified the County of her resignation, effective March 16, 2020. In addition, the position of Deputy Health Officer has been vacant since

mid-January. As such, the County has an immediate need to appoint an Interim Health Officer.

This item requests adoption of a resolution appointing Dr. Mase to the position of Interim Health Officer for the County of Sonoma. In addition, this item requests approval to execute an agreement with Dr. Sundari Mase for Interim Health Officer services. If approved, Dr. Mase will assume the role of Interim Health Officer on March 10, 2020.

Dr. Mase is located in the Bay Area. She received her M.D. from University of California, San Francisco, and has a Masters in Public Health with a concentration in epidemiology from UC, Berkeley, School of Public Health. For the last 14 years, Dr. Mase has been in various roles controlling and researching Tuberculosis for such organizations as World Health Organization, Country Office for India, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Santa Clara County Public Health Department.

Dr. Mase will assume responsibility for leading the Public Health Division of the Department of Health Services. A focal point of her duties is preparing the County's response to COVID-19, including acting as the County's spokesperson on matters related to the COVID-19 outbreak and working with various government organizations, local hospitals, clinics, and other health care organizations. She will provide direction and collaborate on implementation of the Department of Health Services Strategic plan, will work to develop and implement health policies that improve community health in Sonoma County, and will ensure that Board of Supervisors' priorities are met. She will work with community partners on local initiatives including, but not limited to, the local food system, water and environmental quality, dental health for children and adults, and the health care delivery system integration supporting the "Triple Aim" of improved care, decreased cost, and increased access.

**Prior Board Actions:**

On April 2, 2019 the Board adopted a resolution appointing Dr. Celeste Philip to the position of Health Officer for the County of Sonoma effective April 9, 2019.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>FY 19-20 Adopted</b>	<b>FY 20-21 Projected</b>	<b>FY 21-22 Projected</b>
Budgeted Expenses	135,000	65,000	
Additional Appropriation Requested			
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal	135,000	65,000	
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>0</b>

**Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:**

Funding for the agreement for Interim Health Officer services is from 1991 Health Realignment and salary

savings from the vacant Health Officer position.

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

**Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):**

N/A

**Attachments:**

Resolution, agreement

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

N/A