

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

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For the Agenda of:
June 15, 2009

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Department of Health and Human Services
Subject: Report Back On State Mandated Programs
Contact: Ann Edwards-Buckley, Acting Director, Health and Human Services, 875-2002

BACKGROUND

During the June 9, 2009 Budget Hearing, the Department of Health and Human Services was requested to report back on:

What state-mandated programs can we no longer provide without state funding? What programs can be shifted back to the state? What are the options when programs are shifted from the state to the county?

DISCUSSION

The two programs within CPS that are state mandated and could not function without State funding are Child Welfare Services, and Children's Receiving Home. The two programs within Senior and Adult Services that are state mandated and could not function without state funding are In-Home Supportive Services, and Adult Protective Services.

Primary Health Services do not have any programs that can be shifted to the State.

Division of Public Health

All the programs in the Division of Public Health are State mandated programs. With very little time available to respond to this inquiry, the Division did not have time to consult County Counsel, its own program managers, State Programs or other experts. The report back is speculative. Therefore, the opinions expressed below might contain inaccuracies. The department can provide a more in-depth report back after it has had the opportunity to involve all parties concerned.

1. The programs in the Division of Public Health that could not function without State funding are California Children's Services (CCS), and Child Health and Disability

Prevention (CHDP). There is no proposal in the Governor's budget to remove State funding from these two programs.

2. The only program in this Division that could be shifted to the State is the Public Health Laboratory. Doing so would result in additional costs to the County. There would be very long turn-around times for routine tests that could result in additional spread of diseases, hospitalizations, increased costs, loss of Federal funding, loss of revenues received for sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and tuberculosis (TB) testing, and death because of unnecessary treatments that would occur in the absence of test results. Our analysis is that it is more cost effective to run the Public Health Laboratory in Sacramento County than to shift this function to the State.
3. Recently the State shifted data entry for Sacramento County STD Confidential Morbidity Reports (CMRs) from their staff to Sacramento County staff. Sacramento County is now data entering 10,000 additional CMRs a year with no additional staff resources. Given the epidemic of STDs in Sacramento County, one option is to try to absorb the additional workload. As a result, data entry would be delayed resulting in a delay in follow-up for these diseases. The other option would be to not perform the data entry which would result in not knowing the extent of the epidemic of STD and not being able to formulate plans to address this issue, resulting in further degradation of the health of the residents of the County.

Respectfully submitted,

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Department of Health and Human Services

APPROVED:
TERRY SCHUTTEN
County Executive

By: _____
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