



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Board of Supervisors

DATE: December 3, 2004

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 14, 2004

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisor Richard Gordon ^{RG} and Supervisor Mike Nevin ^{MN}

SUBJECT: San Mateo Health Commission

Recommendation

Adopt an ordinance amending the membership of the San Mateo Commission on Publicly Assisted Medical Care, also known as the San Mateo Health Commission and the Health Plan of San Mateo.

Background

Since its formation in 1987, the Health Commission has included eleven (11) members. This was necessary to ensure a broadly based public-private partnership, which successfully oversees the administration of Medi-Cal in the County of San Mateo. As part of the effort to ensure a strong provider network, the Health Plan has historically paid the same rate to providers of the same service.

Discussion

In 2002, it became evident that the San Mateo Medical Center was losing significant revenue as the result of its participation as a provider in the Health Plan of San Mateo. Its inpatient provider contract with the Health Plan meant that the Medical Center was unable to qualify for enough AB 1255 funding to ensure continued fiscal viability. Therefore, your board authorized the Medical Center to terminate its participation as a Health Plan provider if it could not find a way to offset the losses it was suffering because of its participation.

The solution that was developed involved the payment of differential rates to providers of the same services. With an agreement to pay the Medical Center a rate that was higher than that of other providers of the same service, the Medical Center

has been able to continue providing Medi-Cal services through the Health Plan.

However, the differential rates have led to several decisions that presented a conflict of interest for some of the commissioners, and several members of the Commission have been unable to participate in the important decisions regarding differential rates.

Therefore, it is recommended that the membership be modified to eliminate the hospital administrators from membership on the commission. It is also recommended that the public member slot that had been required to be filled by a nurse be converted to a member at large. This change will remove all three hospital administrators from the commission, and will significantly alleviate the issues concerning conflicts of interest.

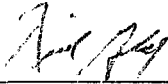
Further, the original membership of eleven (11) is quite a bit larger than the membership of other county commissions. The reduction of the required membership to nine (9) commissioners will make the operation of the commission more efficient and easier to manage.

Vision Alignment

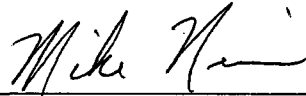
This action is consistent with the goal of providing affordable healthcare and preventive care.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact.



SUPERVISOR RICHARD GORDON



SUPERVISOR MIKE NEVIN

ORDINANCE NO. _____
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * * * *

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SAN MATEO
COMMISSION ON PUBLICLY ASSISTED MEDICAL CARE
(HEALTH COMMISSION)

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California,

ORDAINS as follows

SECTION 1.

Section 2.68.020 of Chapter 2.68 of Title 2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 2.68.020 Membership of commission.

(a) The Commission shall consist of nine (9) voting members, who shall either be legal residents of the County of San Mateo, or shall work for an employer whose primary place of business is located in the County of San Mateo.

(b) Members of the Commission should have an abiding commitment to, and interest in quality publicly assisted health care delivery systems.

(c) The nine voting members shall include:

1. Two members of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors;
2. The County Manager or his designee;
3. A physician;
4. Three public members, including:
 - a. A beneficiary or representative of beneficiaries served by the Commission; and
 - b. A representative of the senior and/or minority communities in San

Mateo County; and

- c. A public member at large;
- 5. A representative of San Mateo County General Hospital physicians; and
- 6. A pharmacist;
- (d) Commissioners shall be appointed by majority vote of the Board of Supervisors and shall serve at the pleasure thereof.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (f), all Commissioners appointed by the Board shall serve terms of office of four (4) years. At the conclusion of a term, a member may be reappointed to another term. Unless specific exception is made by the Board of Supervisors or state law, no appointed member appointed by the Board of Supervisors may serve more than three complete terms.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days from the passage date thereof.
