



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Human Services Department

Subject: Defer Privacy and Security Agreement with California Department of Social Services

Meeting Date: January 28, 2025

Formal Title: Defer to on or before June 24, 2025, ratification of the Privacy and Security Agreement with the California Department of Social Services

Recommended Action

Defer to on or before June 24, 2025, ratification of the Privacy and Security Agreement with the California Department of Social Services.

Executive Summary

The Human Services Department (HSD) seeks to defer the ratification of the Privacy and Security Agreement (PSA) with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). The final version of the PSA for CDSS has not yet been released by the State department for signature, and HSD is requesting additional time to bring this agreement back for ratification.

Discussion

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) require all County welfare departments to enter into PSAs to ensure the privacy and security of personally identifiable information (PII) used by the County welfare departments during the eligibility determination process. The purpose of the renewed PSAs is to ensure the privacy and security of PII contained in the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS), the Applicant Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS), and data received from the Social Security Administration (SSA) or other sources. The new term of the agreements is from September 1, 2024, through September 1, 2028, with minor language changes to meet current standards.

HSD received authorization from the Board on August 27, 2024 (DOC-2024-664), to execute the agreements and the DHCS agreement was executed and ratified on November 19, 2024 (DOC-2024-906). HSD has yet to receive the final PSA agreement from CDSS. If the agreement is received from the State, HSD will return to ratify the signed agreement with CDSS no later than June 24, 2025.

Financial Impact

The PSAs do not result in a General Fund contribution, as both are non-monetary agreements.

Strategic Initiatives

Operational Plan - Operational Excellence

Submitted By:

Randy Morris

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.