



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, public hearing to consider amending Resolution 2007-38 increasing the fees the for the Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program effective March 1, 2012.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize President to amend Resolution 2007-38 increasing the fees for the Medical Marijuana Identification Card Program effective March 1, 2012.

SUMMARY: The California Medical Marijuana ID Program provides a Statewide identification system for individuals whose physician has recommended the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Under the program, established in 2004, the State establishes guidelines and administers a database and counties issue the cards and administer the program at the local level. State legislation requires that the program implement a fee structure to cover the costs of the program and provides for a 50% reduction in the fees for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Approximately 20% of the identification cards issued by the Department are to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Resolution 2007-38 increased the State's portion of the identification card fee. The County's portion of the fee has remained the same since 2005. In order to maintain Marin County's program on a cost-covered basis, the Department of Health and Human Services conducted a cost analysis and proposes increases in the fees for the county portion of the identification card fee as illustrated in the following table:

	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Medical Marijuana Card - Medi-Cal Beneficiaries		
County portion	\$23.50	\$32.50
State portion	\$33.00	\$33.00
Total Fee	\$56.50	\$65.50
Medical Marijuana Card – All Others		
County portion	\$47.00	\$65.00
State portion	\$66.00	\$66.00
Total Fee	\$113.00	\$131.00

A December 2011 survey of several other counties revealed that the Department’s proposed fees, based on the cost of providing the service, are within the range of fees charged elsewhere:

	San Francisco	Contra Costa	Napa	Marin Proposed	Sonoma	Los Angeles
Medical Marijuana Card - Medi-Cal Beneficiaries	\$52.00	\$60.00	\$62.00	\$65.50	\$80.00	\$76.50
Medical Marijuana Card – All Others	\$103.00	\$120.00	\$124.00	\$131.00	\$160.00	\$153.00

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT: Implementation of the proposed fee increases will allow the Department to recover a higher portion of the cost of providing services. There is no increase in net county cost associated with this request. The revenue will be available in the Public Health Administration Funds Center 1000081000. The Department will work with the CAO to adjust the FY 12/13 baseline budget during the midyear budget process when a more accurate estimate can be made based on several months of implementation.

REVIEWED BY: Department of Finance N/A
 Human Resources N/A
 County Counsel N/A

Respectfully submitted,

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SAP Document Number: No SAP document required