

Resolution No.:

Meeting Date: October 22, 2024

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 35

WHEREAS, California's health care system is in crisis - hospitals and health clinics are closing in rural areas, emergency rooms are overcrowded, and patients are forced to wait months to meet with their doctors for preventative care; and

WHEREAS, California has redirected more than \$30 billion in health care funding over the past 15 years, decreasing critical access to essential health services; and

WHEREAS, The challenges Medi-Cal recipients face in accessing health care expose systemic inequities by allowing our most vulnerable neighbors, family members, and friends to wait the longest for access to care; and

WHEREAS, County governments play a key role in administering Medi-Cal and distributing and organizing necessary health care services, including behavioral health services, operating hospital systems, and managed care plans; and,

WHEREAS, County governments face ongoing challenges such as provider capacity and recruitment and retention of the health care workforce, especially in rural counties; and

WHEREAS, 932,585 individuals are Medi-Cal recipients in the County, of which 311,071 are children ages 0-18.

WHEREAS, Proposition 35 will secure dedicated, ongoing funding to protect and expand patient access to care and address California's most urgent health care priorities without raising taxes; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 35 will prevent the state from redirecting these funds for non-health care purposes, guaranteeing that billions in health care dollars are spent on patient care and health care workforce development and training, as intended; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 35 includes strong accountability provisions, capping administrative costs at 1 percent and requiring ongoing independent financial audits; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 35 has received bipartisan support from a broad coalition including local government, business leaders, health care workers, first responders, labor unions, physicians, nurses, dentists, hospitals, Planned Parenthood, community health centers, and social justice organizations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors hereby declares its support for Proposition 35 to secure dedicated, ongoing funding to protect and expand patient access to care and address California's most urgent health care priorities without raising taxes.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Claudia G. Silva, County Counsel

BY: Walter de Lorrell III, Chief Deputy County Counsel