



Les Ybarra, President CA Medicaid
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September 3, 2021

The Honorable Diane Burgis
Chair, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
VIA E-MAIL

RE: 9/07/21 Agenda Item C.34 – Request to Remove from Consent Agenda

Dear Board Chair Burgis:

Thank you for the work you and fellow Supervisors do to ensure the best healthcare for individuals in Contra Costa County. As the state prepares to release an RFP for Medicaid coverage and you consider the potential to move from a county offering two choices of coverage to their Medi-Cal members to a single plan, I respectfully request that Item C.34 be pulled from the consent agenda and allow for discussion on the model change ordinance. Providing historical context and sharing Anthem Blue Cross' vision for implementing the quickly approaching, expansive changes required by CalAIM is a critical component in any decisions to be made about changing Medi-Cal offerings in Contra Costa county.

Since 1994 Anthem Blue Cross has been a partner with the state in moving Medi-Cal from fee-for-service coverage to managed care. This partnership continues as we work with counties and critical Community Based Organizations to build the substantial infrastructure and programs required to bring enhancements required by the Department of Managed Healthcare Services' (DHCS) CalAIM program. Our Special Programs team, led by Beau Hennemann, is a recognized leader in building CalAIM programs to reality.

Anthem Blue Cross' experience in other markets along with our Foundation and administrative resources benefit local development and the build out of a long-term infrastructure to better coordinate resources and prepare upcoming Medi-Cal transformation. We bring experience to the county with upcoming program implementations related to Long Term Care (LTC) and LTC transitions programs which have been live since 2013 in Los Angeles and Santa Clara Counties. Anthem has experience to draw upon from other states establishing foster care, jail re-entry and other programs that are components of CalAIM.

We are proud of our service to our members and the communities in Contra Costa County. We are committed to building out these programs that move healthcare beyond facility walls and focus on the holistic needs of our members. As with the coverage we provide for our employer groups, for individuals in Covered California, and our senior members in Medicare, it is also true for our Medicaid members – having coverage options and a competitive marketplace empowers the individual and drives innovation. We ask that you keep these important health plan options open for your Medi-Cal constituents.

Anthem Blue Cross understands the importance of your decision regarding how Medi-Cal will be provided to county residents. As a Medi-Cal provider in the community for twentythree years, we remain committed to providing Contra Costa County residents an option in their Medi-Cal coverage and look forward to having a dialog with you ahead of your final determination on a contract model for the county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'L' followed by a horizontal line.

Les Ybarra, President of California Medicaid
Anthem Blue Cross

CC: Supervisor Glover
Supervisor Gioia
Supervisor Andersen
Supervisor Mitchoff
Jami Morritt, Chief Assistant Clerk of the Board