



County of Santa Cruz

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PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 310, SANTA CRUZ, CA 950604073

(831) 454-2600 FAX: (831) 454-2411 TDD: (831) 454-2123

DANIA TORRES WONG, DIRECTOR

December 28, 1999

Agenda Date: January 25, 2000

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE BENEFITS TO THE DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF EMPLOYEES AND ANNUITANTS THROUGH THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT (PEMHCA)

Dear Members of the Board:

The County of Santa Cruz has a long history of providing medical benefit for employee's domestic partners. Until 1994, medical benefits were provided for employee's domestic partners through the County Self-Funded Medical Plan when the County entered into an agreement with the Public Employees' Retirement System to offer medical benefits through the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act (PEMHCA).

Currently domestic partner medical coverage is available to Law Enforcement employees enrolled in the Public Employees Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust, General Representation Unit employees enrolled in the California Service Employees Health and Welfare Trust and General Representation Unit, Middle Management and Executive Management employees who participate in the Domestic Partner Reimbursement Program.

During the last legislative session, the Governor signed Assembly Bill 26 effective 1-1-2000 which authorizes PEMHCA to recognize same sex domestic partnerships under age 62 and opposite and same sex domestic partnerships when both partners are over the age of 62. In order to comply with the provisions of Assembly Bill 26, your Board's approval of the attached resolution amending the County's contract with PERS is required.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board adopt the attached Resolution to provide benefits for an employee or retiree's same sex domestic partner under age 62 or if both partners are over the age of 62, same or opposite sex partner through the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act as recommended by the Personnel Director.

Sincerely,

RECOMMENDED:

Dania Torres Wong
Dania Torres Wong
Personnel Director

Susan A. Mauriello
SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

Attachment
CC: Personnel (3)/Public Employees Retirement System

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO

On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION OF ELECTING TO BE SUBJECT TO SECTION 22873
OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 22850 and/or 22850.3 provides the benefits of the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act to employees of local agencies contracting with the Public Employees Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, THE County of Santa Cruz, hereinafter referred to as Contracting Agency, is a local agency contracting with the Public Employees' Retirement System under the Act; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 22873 allows a Contracting Agency to provide benefits to the domestic partners of employees and annuitants of local agencies contracting under the Act upon proper application; and

WHEREAS, The Contracting Agency desires to obtain for its employees and annuitants the benefit of Section 22873 and to accept the liabilities and obligations of a contracting agency under the Section; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Contracting Agency elect, and it does hereby elect, to be subject to the provisions of Section 22873 of the Government Code.


Adopted at a regular meeting of the Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 25th day of January 2000 by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 1/10/99
Assistant County Counsel

cc: Personnel (3)
Public Employees Retirement System - Health Benefits Division
Post Office Box 924714
Sacramento, CA 94229-2714