RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-30

MEETING: January 21, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: John Lawless, Interim Human Services Director

RE: 2014 LIHEAP Agreement 14B-5022 for Energy Assistance and Weatherization

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the 2014 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Agreement 14B-5022 with the California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) in an Amount Not to Exceed $144,251 to Provide Energy Assistance Payments and Weatherization Services, and Authorize the Human Services Director to Sign the Agreement and All Subsequent Amendments After County Counsel Review. The purpose of LIHEAP, under the auspices of the CSD, is to provide energy assistance and weatherization services to low-income county residents. LIHEAP funds have been allocated to Mariposa County for several years and operate on a program term basis.

In this initial contract, CSD has released only 50% of our overall 2014 LIHEAP funding. CSD projects our total 2014 funding to be approximately 95% of our 2013 levels. Based on the reduced federal budget for the LIHEAP program, CSD has projected an approximate 5% decrease from 2013 funding levels.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board approved the previous 2013 LIHEAP Agreement by Resolution 2013-23 on January 17, 2013. In program year 2013, this program assisted 545 low-income households with energy assistance propane, wood, and utility payments and 37 households with weatherization services. A large percentage of these households include vulnerable populations such as seniors, the disabled, children under 5 years, and the working poor.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If this Agreement is not approved, Mariposa will lose the grant funds of $144,251 and the opportunity to provide Energy Assistance payments and Weatherization Services to nearly 600 Mariposa County households.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This program is funded by federal energy assistance grant (LIHEAP) funds. There is no impact to the County General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:
CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier