RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2020-149

MEETING:      March 24, 2020

TO:           The Board of Supervisors

FROM:         Chevon Kothari, Health and Human Services Director

RE:           Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program (DLT)

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Authorize the Health and Human Services Agency Director to apply for a technology infrastructure grant with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Services (RUS) for funding of Distance Learning and Telemedicine equipment in an amount not to exceed $1,000,000.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program helps rural communities to acquire distance learning and conferencing technologies so that county government professionals who service rural residents can link to peers in other communities and leverage respective expertise. This program provides valuable tools in improving the quality of life for thousands of residents in rural communities across the United States.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
This is an additional grant opportunity with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Services (RUS).

The Agency was awarded a previous grant for $252,647 that was approved by the Board on January 22, 2019 by Resolution 2019-42.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
If this agreement is not approved, the County of Mariposa will not have the benefit of these additional funds for building technology infrastructure to provide optimal services for our clients.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
If the Board approves and the County is awarded these funds, HHSA will request approval to accept the funds and implement the project and submit a budget action at a later date when funds are scheduled to be received. There is no impact to the County General Fund.
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RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey