

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

October 1, 2002

Last year the Board accepted a report from an ad hoc task force established to evaluate the County's tissue harvesting contracts that recommended the development of a consolidated contract, administered by the Coroner, for the harvesting of tissue from deceased patients in DHS facilities and by the Coroner in cases it was investigating.

The RFP process for the letting of this consolidated contract is almost complete. However, an issue has arisen as to the appropriateness of the rates being proposed by the selected vendor that I believe requires further evaluation by the Coroner. This review will take some time and will delay the processing of the final contract for Board approval.

As a result, the current agreement held by the Department of Health Services for the harvesting of tissue at LAC+USC Medical Center, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, and High Desert Hospital will expire before the new agreements are in place.

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Not only is this a vital service that needs to continue, the existence of such an agreement is a federal requirement related to DHS' participation in the Medicare program.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors delegate authority to the Director of Health Services, or his designee:

1. Continue, on a month-to-month basis, for up to nine months, the current agreement with Tissue Banks International for the provision of tissue harvesting services at LAC+USC Medical Center, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, and High Desert Hospital;
2. Include in the agreement a provision allowing the County to terminate the agreement without cause upon 10 days written notice; and,
3. Provide, in the agreement that the agreement shall expire upon the effective date of any replacement agreement.