File #: 21-0242, **Version:** 1

Health and Human Services Agency recommending the Board adopt and authorize the Chair to sign Resolution **015-2021**, which authorizes the Auditor-Controller to:
1) Return money to the Internal Revenue Service for those foster youth no longer in the El Dorado County Foster Care System; and
2) Submit payment in the amount of each EIP received, to foster youth still in the El Dorado County Foster Care system to that youth or legal guardian, as appropriate.

FUNDING: CARES Act Economic Impact Payments.

DISCUSSION / BACKGROUND:
Effective March 19, 2020, the United States Senate approved Senate Bill 3548 cited as the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" or CARES Act. In the CARES Act Section 2101 Recovery Rebates for Individuals for the year 2020 were identified as Economic Impact Payments (EIP). The amounts per individual were outlined in that same section of the CARES Act.

Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) received EIP checks for youth in the El Dorado County (EDC) Foster Care System totaling $16,800, which were deposited into the County treasury. However, California Department of Social Services (CDSS) provided guidance that payments for foster youth are neither Social Security payments, nor Social Disability Income payments, and belong to the foster youth; therefore, counties in receipt of EIP on behalf of foster youth should forward said money to the foster youth (or guardian). In addition, CDSS provided further guidance that if the foster youth is no longer in the county's foster youth system, the EIP should be returned to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) following guidance provided in an IRS Alert IR-2020-121.

Therefore, HHSA is recommending the Board of Supervisors adopt a Resolution authorizing the Auditor-Controller to act on their behalf and either (1) return money to the IRS for those youth no longer in EDC Foster Care System, or (2) submit payment in the amount of each EIP received for a foster youth still in the EDC Foster Care System to that youth or legal guardian, as appropriate.

ALTERNATIVES:
The Board could decline to adopt the attached Resolution, in which case the County would be out of compliance with the intent of the EIP checks and the processes established to ensure appropriate payment is received by the youth in Foster Care.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION:
N/A

OTHER DEPARTMENT / AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:
County Counsel.

CAO RECOMMENDATION:
Approve as recommended.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
This Board item has no impact on Net County Cost. Payment of these monies would have no impact on the HHSA budget.

CLERK OF THE BOARD FOLLOW UP ACTIONS
1) Clerk of the Board to obtain signature of Chair on attached Resolution.
2) Clerk of the Board to return one (1) certified copy of the Resolution to the HHSA Contracts Unit at 3057 Briw Road.
3) Clerk of the Board to submit one (1) certified copy of the Resolution to the Auditor-Controller.

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPONENT:
Good governance.

CONTACT
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