

MENDOCINO COAST HEALTH CARE DISTRICT
775 RIVER DRIVE, FORT BRAGG 95437

MEMORANDUM

TO: MCHCD Board of Directors
FROM: Paul Garza, Jr.
DATE: October 8, 2026
SUBJECT: Monthly Report

Proposition 44

There are many ballot initiatives in the upcoming that makes claims about improving health care in our State by creating new funding some through bonds and other through taxes. I want to call your attention especially to Proposition 44 that will impact health care clinics. These institutions primarily serve rural areas and low-to-moderate income individuals in rural and urban areas. I urge each to you to take a careful look at the impact of this proposal on the operation of these clinics. It is argued that it will greatly increase the operating costs of these facilities and result in the closure of many.

Partnership

Adventist Health as announced that the new Computer Tomography (CT) Scanner that is funded by the Mendocino Coast Healthcare Foundation and the MCHCD is scheduled to be installed in December. It will enable a major improvement in our hospital's diagnostic capability.

At the most recent WineSong, the Mendocino Coast Healthcare Foundation raised \$175,000 for a new Echocardiogram. Adventist Health further committed additional contributions to enable the purchase of this new equipment. The current Echocardiogram though still functional is over thirteen (13) years old. In that period, Echocardiogram diagnostic capabilities have improved. Again, this will be a major improvement in diagnostic capability.

Status of Seismic Retrofit and Modernization

The application to the City of Fort Bragg, Planning Department for the seismic retrofit is still being reviewed but all indications have been quite positive.

HR 1

In January, we will begin to experience a greater impact from the drastic reduction of health care coverage. It is expected to be very painful. The County of Mendocino's Board of Supervisors had a full day of testimony from County Departments on the anticipated impact. If you are interested, you can still view the entire presentation via the County's website. It is not for the faint of heart. It is hard to understand this retreat from providing health care in our country to those in need. Additionally, millions of Americans will lose their health insurance especially in rural areas of the country.

Elections

Mikael Blaisdell and myself have been returned for new terms on the Board without an election because no one filed against them. The same is true for Toby Wade who will join us as a Board Member in December for a four-year term. At that point, there will be one seat vacant which the new Board can either fill or defer selection to the County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors.