

**Regional Center of the East Bay
Contracting Policy
Date Approved: June 27, 2011**

The Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB) board will review and approve any regional center contract of two hundred fifty thousand (\$250,000) or more, before entering into the contract. The RCEB board and staff will continue to adhere to all the requirements in law and regulation in this regard including Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4625.5 which is hereby made a part of this policy. Pursuant to RCEB Bylaws, the Executive Committee of the RCEB board may act on behalf of the full board when the timing of scheduled board meetings does not allow for timely contract approval. Any contract approved in this fashion will be presented for review at the next scheduled RCEB board meeting.

15, 2011. This submission shall include a description of the process followed to collaborate with system stakeholders; the anticipated impact of the best practices, coupled with prior reductions on consumers, families, and providers; estimated cost savings associated with each practice; and draft statutory language necessary to implement the best practices. Implementation of the best practices shall take effect only upon subsequent legislative enactment.

SEC. 2. Section 4622.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

4622.5. By August 15 of each year, the governing board of each regional center shall submit to the department detailed documentation, as determined by the department, demonstrating that the composition of the board is in compliance with Section 4622.

SEC. 3. Section 4625.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

4625.5. (a) The governing board of each regional center shall adopt and maintain a written policy requiring the board to review and approve any regional center contract of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) or more, before entering into the contract.

(b) No regional center contract of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) or more shall be valid unless approved by the governing board of the regional center in compliance with its written policy pursuant to subdivision (a).

(c) For purposes of this section, contracts do not include vendor approval letters issued by regional centers pursuant to Section 54322 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

SEC. 4. Section 4626 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

4626. (a) The department shall give a very high priority to ensuring that regional center board members and employees act in the course of their duties solely in the best interest of the regional center consumers and their families without regard to the interests of any other organization with which they are associated or persons to whom they are related. Board members, employees, and others acting on the regional center's behalf, as defined in regulations issued by the department, shall be free from conflicts of interest that could adversely influence their judgment, objectivity, or loyalty to the regional center, its consumers, or its mission.

(b) In order to prevent potential conflicts of interest, no member of the governing board or member of the program policy committee of a regional center shall be any of the following:

(1) An employee of the State Department of Developmental Services or any state or local agency that provides services to a regional center consumer, if employed in a capacity which includes administrative or policymaking responsibility, or responsibility for the regulation of the regional center.

(2) An employee or a member of the state council or an area board.