

RESOLUTION - SUPERMAJORITY

Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation of Designated ARPA Funds to the Department of Health's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget for Bilingual Stipends (51)

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2023, the County Board approved resolution R-202303-51-086 setting bilingual pay conditions for eligible Department of Health employees using ARPA funds through December 2026, then moving the expense to the general fund beginning January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2023, the County Board approved resolution R-202310-51-262 authorizing an administrative change to separate the ARPA funds from all other sources of pay, necessitating a temporary change to a stipend system through December 2026 before converting back to the base pay compensation system outlined in the original resolution; and

WHEREAS, staff with proven Spanish competency language skills currently receive an annual stipend of \$3,000 to provide interpretation services and \$1,500 to provide translation services for increased responsibilities within grade paid out over 26 pay periods; and

WHEREAS, County Finance met with Department leadership and recommended maintaining a stipend system after January 1, 2027 to make it easier to keep the expense separated from all future grants, as needed; and

WHEREAS, to honor the original intent of and compensation outlined in resolution R-202303-51-086, the Board of Health recommends an annual stipend of \$3,250 to provide interpretation services and \$1,600 to provide translation services for increased responsibilities within grade paid out over 26 pay periods for fiscal years 2025 and 2026; and

WHEREAS, the initial estimated expense with fringe for positions was projected to cost \$79,186, County Finance advised the Department to affirm the appropriation for each of the remaining fiscal years as follows: \$60,815.27 for fiscal year 2024, \$71,262.50 for fiscal year 2025, \$71,262.50 for fiscal year 2026, and \$5,938.45 for December 2026, and will be supported by the Department's designated American Rescue Plan funds through 12/31/2026, then move to the general fund beginning 1/1/2027; and

WHEREAS, this requested change does not change the full-time equivalents nor the headcount of the Department; and

WHEREAS, after review and discussion by the Public Health and Community Services and Finance and Audit Committees of the County Board, and the Board of Health, the requested change is being recommended to the County Board for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois, that it hereby authorizes an emergency appropriation of the Department's designated ARPA funds for bilingual stipends for Department of Health employees who have met the testing requirements for interpretation and/or translation per R-202303-51-086 as follows:

099100-91-90-9000-221 Utilization of Fund Balance – Administration – ARPA Fund \$209,278.81

301010-30-90-9000-221 Regular Salaries – Administration – ARPA Fund \$209,278.81

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is hereby authorized to distribute a certified copy of this Resolution to the Director of Human Resources, the Chief Financial Officer, the County Administrator, County Auditor, and the Public Health Administrator.

DATED at Woodstock, Illinois, this 19th day of November, A.D., 2024.

Michael Buehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

Joseph J. Tirio, County Clerk



McHenry County Board

County Board Room
Woodstock, IL 60098

Meeting: November 19, 2024
Department: Health Department
Prepared By: Melissa Adamson

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation of Designated ARPA Funds to the Department of Health's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget for Bilingual Stipends (51)

Board / Committee Action Requested:

Authorize emergency appropriation of Designated ARPA funds for bilingual compensation to the Department's Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

Background and Discussion: The Department provides a wide range of services to the citizens of McHenry County and must be organized to provide these services in an efficient and effective manner. Utilizing and compensating Spanish bilingual staff for mandated interpretation and translation services is more efficient and cost effective.

Impact on Human Resources: No impact.

Impact on Budget (Revenue; Expenses, Fringe Benefits): \$209,278.72 increase to the Department of Health's FY24 personnel budget. These costs are supported by the Department's designated American Rescue Plan funds through 12/31/2026 then move to the general fund beginning 1/1/2027.

Impact on Capital Expenditures: None

Impact on Physical Space: None

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies: None

Conformity to Board Ordinances, Policies and Strategic Plan: Conforms to the McHenry County Strategic Plan for Health and Social Services strategy, Goal #2 and #3.