

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 340, MS 3-12  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TTY 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)  
(916) 651-6309



June 27, 2016

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: STATE OF EMERGENCY IN KERN COUNTY

As a result of the Erskine fire that started June 23, 2016, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., declared a State of Emergency on June 24, 2016, for Kern County.

This fire has destroyed over one hundred homes and continues to threaten thousands of structures, including additional homes, necessitating the evacuation of thousands of residents.

Additionally, this fire has damaged power lines and other critical infrastructure, continues to threaten critical infrastructure, and has forced the closure of roadways.

The circumstances of this fire, by reason of its magnitude are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat.

Since there is a declared State of Emergency, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) is authorizing, pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations section 54326 (a)(11), regional centers to pay vendors for absences that are the direct result of the rainstorms in the county listed above. The applicable regulation section reads as follows:

*[All vendors shall...] Not bill for consumer absences for nonresidential services. The Department shall authorize payment for absences which are the direct result of situations and/or occurrences for which a State of Emergency has been declared by the Governor. If payment for absences due to a State of Emergency is authorized by the Department, the vendor shall bill only for absences in excess of the average number of absences experienced by the vendor during the 12-month period prior to the month in which the disaster occurred.*

**"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"**

Regional Center Executive Directors  
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If you have questions about this correspondence, please contact me at (916) 654-3722,  
or by electronic mail at [Rapone.Anderson@dds.ca.gov](mailto:Rapone.Anderson@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rapone Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

RAPONE ANDERSON  
Regional Center Branch Manager  
Community Services Division

cc: Regional Center Chief Counselors  
Regional Center Administrators  
Association of Regional Center Agencies

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bcc: Brian Winfield  
Tom Blythe  
Mark Teply  
Ed Yan  
Tamara Rodriguez

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