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GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

December 26, 2025

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS  
SUBJECT: STATE OF EMERGENCY – 2025 LATE DECEMBER STORMS

On December 24, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Shasta Counties, which may have affected vendor services for individuals served in these areas. For additional details of the declared State of Emergency, please visit: [https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/SOE-Late-December-Storms\\_12-24-25\\_FORMATTED.pdf](https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/SOE-Late-December-Storms_12-24-25_FORMATTED.pdf)

As a result of the State of Emergency, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) is authorizing, pursuant to Title 17 California Code of Regulations (CCR) section [54326\(a\)\(11\)](#), regional centers to pay vendors for absences that are the direct result of the State of Emergency. CCR, Title 17 section 54326(a)(11) states:

*[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."*

Individuals who receive services, family members or service providers with questions should contact their regional center. Questions from regional centers should be directed to [ratesquestions@dds.ca.gov](mailto:ratesquestions@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Original Signed by:*

ERNIE CRUZ  
Deputy Director  
Community Services Division

cc: Regional Center Administrators  
Regional Center Directors of Client Services  
Association of Regional Center Agencies  
Dana Simon, Department of Developmental Services  
Jim Knight, Department of Developmental Services  
Tiffani Andrade, Department of Developmental Services  
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