

# Judge: Fresno County needn't pay for undocumented workers' medical care

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Fresno County does not have to follow a 30-year-old court order requiring it to pay for medical services for undocumented workers, a judge has ruled.

However, county Superior Court Judge Donald S. Black stayed his decision for 60 days, saying it likely will be appealed.

Black stopped short of dissolving the entire injunction that requires health care services be provided to the indigent -- people considered to be living in poverty.

The judge said the county had proven a change in law no longer required it to pay for medical care for undocumented workers, but his motion stopped there.

Black said he could not find that "dissolving the injunction is in the interests of justice," citing arguments by Clinica Sierra Vista that ending the injunction would result in negative impacts to the health of not only undocumented people, but of the public at large.

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