



King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

April 29, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits the Maintaining Medicaid Retention in King County report, in response to Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, Proviso P9, and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt.

As required, the enclosed report describes work led by Public Health—Seattle & King County (PHSKC) to maintain enrollment in the Medicaid health insurance program, known as Apple Health in Washington state, in the context of federal policy changes in HR1, approved by the United States Congress and the President in July of 2025.

The report describes PHSKC's phased strategy to limit disenrollment by leveraging its lead role in training Health Insurance Navigators in King County and beyond. Key areas of work in the coming years include expanding outreach, streamlining verification systems, strengthening partnerships, providing access for immigrants, and monitoring, tracking and adjusting activities.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed motion to acknowledge receipt.

If your staff have questions, please contact Aaron Rubardt, Chief Budget Officer, at (206) 263-9715.

The Honorable Sarah Perry

April 29, 2026

Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karan Gill". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "K" and "G".

for

Girmay Zahilay

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Sandra Valenciano, Director and Health Officer, Public Health – Seattle and King County