SDRMA Health Benefits Program Amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Summary of Changes

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Section	Previous Language	Revised Language	Description of Change
Definitions	Various terms and definitions, some not clearly defined or missing.	Expanded and clarified definitions for "Committee," "Coverage Documents," "Program Participation Agreement," "Program," and "Program Documents."	Improved clarity and specificity of key terms for better understanding and administration.
Entry into Program	ENTITY shall enroll in the Program by making application through SDRMA.	ENTITY shall apply for participation by executing all forms prescribed by SDRMA, subject to approval by the Program's Underwriter.	Clarifies the application process and emphasizes underwriter approval.
Maintenance of Effort	Program provides health benefits to all participants of the ENTITY.	Specifies eligible participants (active employees, retired employees, dependents, public officials) and outlines optional participation for some groups.	Clarifies eligibility and participation requirements.
Premiums	ENTITY will remit monthly premiums based on rates established by SDRMA.	Premiums and rates are set by the Committee; SDRMA adds an administrative fee. Details on billing, penalties for late payment, and termination for non-payment added.	Adds detail on premium calculation, billing, and consequences for late payment.
Benefits	Benefits as set forth in ENTITY's Plan Summary.	Benefits must be agreed upon with employee organizations and approved by the Program underwriter.	Adds requirement for underwriter approval of plan selections.

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Assessments & Dividends	Assessments/dividends used sparingly; allocation based on premiums paid.	Committee may impose premium assessments if funds are insufficient; details on liability for withdrawn entities and dividend formula.	Expands on funding adequacy, assessment process, and dividend distribution.
Withdrawal	ENTITY may withdraw with 90 days' notice.	Notice period extended to 120 days prior to January 1; rescission deadline added; 3-year waiting period for re-entry after withdrawal.	Tightens withdrawal process and re-entry requirements.
Arbitration	Not previously specified.	Adds binding arbitration clause for disputes, specifying Sacramento, CA as venue.	Introduces formal dispute resolution process.
Amendment	Amendments require written agreement by both parties.	Clarifies amendment process, including SDRMA's right to terminate if ENTITY does not execute required amendments.	Strengthens amendment and termination provisions.