Communication from Public

Name: Lupe Vela
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Council File No: 23-1131
Comments for Public Posting: January 30, 2024 To: Honorable Karen Bass Mayor, City Hall Room 303 Honorable City Council City Hall, Room 395 City Clerk RE: 23-1131 Medicare Plan B and IRMAA reimbursement I am one of the 1375 retirees who reached age 65 and are only eligible for Part B and D as part of their LACERS Medicare plan. For me, it means that I have to pay an extra $3,000 per year for Medicare Part B and D. For twenty eight years I was under the impression that after 25 years of City work, my health plan would be 100% subsidized. It is not until you retire that you become aware that the City requires you to join Medicare when you turn 65, upending your regular health care providers and moving you to a new system with higher premiums and yearly surcharges. When I turned 65, The City's excellent health plan came to an end. I was informed that without sufficient social security credits, I was only eligible for Medicare Part B and D and in addition, I would have to pay a significantly higher premium with a yearly surcharge(IRMAAS). With this limited Medicare Plan, my choices in health care are reduced, my premiums are higher, and due to a lack of social security credits, I am not eligible for any reimbursement for Medicare Part B and D premiums or for the Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amounts (IRMAA). For the 1375 retires experiencing this situation, we are a separate and unequal subgroup of LACERS retirees. As a proud ex - city employee, I urge a yes vote on the recommendations to reimburse this subgroup of LACER retirees (1,375) for their Plan B/D medicare premiums and the reimbursements of Medicare surcharges known as IRMAAs. Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations Lupe Vela