



Board of Administration

Agenda Item 8a8

November 20, 2024

Item Name: Proposed Decision – In the Matter of the Appeal Regarding Denial of University of California San Diego Medical Group and Scripps Clinic Medical Group as Preferred Providers of MICHAEL L. CAPLAN, Respondent.

Program: Clinical Policy and Programs Division

Item Type: Action

Parties' Positions

Staff argues that the Board of Administration should adopt the Proposed Decision, as modified. Respondent Michael L. Caplan's (Respondent) position is included in Attachment C, if any.

Strategic Plan

This item is not a specific product of either the Strategic or Annual Plans. The determination of administrative appeals is a power reserved to the Board of Administration.

Procedural Summary

Respondent enrolled in the PERS Gold Health Plan. He subsequently found that most providers affiliated with the University of California San Diego Medical Group and Scripps Clinic Medical Group were not Preferred Providers under the PERS Gold Plan. These providers were Preferred Providers under the PERS Platinum Plan. CalPERS offered to allow him to switch Plans outside the open enrollment period as a one-time exception, but Respondent did not wish to change plans. He requested that CalPERS switch him to the PERS Platinum plan at no additional cost to him. CalPERS denied his request, and Respondent submitted an appeal. The matter was heard by the Office of Administrative Hearings on September 9, 2024. A Proposed Decision was issued on September 26, 2024, affirming CalPERS' determination and denying the appeal.

Alternatives

A. For use if the Board decides to modify and adopt the Proposed Decision as its own Decision:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, pursuant to Government Code section 11517, subdivision (c)(2)(C), which authorizes the Board to "make technical or other minor changes in the proposed decision," hereby modifies the Proposed Decision to delete the redundant "to ensure" in paragraph 15 on page 6; and replacing "599.99" with "599.500" in paragraphs 3 and 4 on page 10, and hereby adopts as its own Decision the Proposed Decision dated September 26, 2024, as modified,

concerning the appeal of Michael L. Caplan; RESOLVED FURTHER that this Board Decision shall be effective 30 days following mailing of the Decision.

B. For use if the Board decides to adopt the Proposed Decision as its own Decision:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System hereby adopts as its own Decision the Proposed Decision dated September 26, 2024, concerning the appeal of Michael L. Caplan; RESOLVED FURTHER that this Board Decision shall be effective 30 days following mailing of the Decision.

C. For use if the Board decides not to adopt the Proposed Decision, and to decide the case upon the record:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, after consideration of the Proposed Decision dated September 26, 2024, concerning the appeal of Michael L. Caplan, hereby rejects the Proposed Decision and determines to decide the matter itself, based upon the record produced before the Administrative Law Judge and such additional evidence and arguments that are presented by the parties and accepted by the Board; RESOLVED FURTHER that the Board's Decision shall be made after notice is given to all parties.

D. For use if the Board decides to remand the matter back to the Office of Administrative Hearings for the taking of further evidence:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, after consideration of the Proposed Decision dated September 26, 2024, concerning the appeal of Michael L. Caplan, hereby rejects the Proposed Decision and refers the matter back to the Administrative Law Judge for the taking of additional evidence as specified by the Board at its meeting.

E. Precedential Nature of Decision (two alternatives; either may be used):

1. For use if the Board wants further argument on the issue of whether to designate its Decision as precedential:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System requests the parties in the matter concerning the appeal of Michael L. Caplan, as well as interested parties, to submit written argument regarding whether the Board's Decision in this matter should be designated as precedential, and that the Board will consider the issue whether to designate its Decision as precedential at a time to be determined.

2. For use if the Board decides to designate its Decision as precedential, without further argument from the parties.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, hereby designates as precedential its Decision concerning the appeal of Michael L. Caplan.

Budget and Fiscal Impacts: Not applicable

Attachments

Attachment A: Proposed Decision

Attachment B: Staff's Argument

Attachment C: Respondent(s) Argument(s)

Donald Moulds, Ph.D.
Chief Health Director
Health Policy and Benefits Branch