

Secretary Diana S. Dooley

Health and Human Services Agency

Secretary Diana Dooley was appointed to lead the California Health and Human Services Agency in December 2010 by Governor Jerry Brown.



As CHHS Secretary, Dooley chairs the California Health Benefit Exchange Board. She also serves as a member or ex officio member of numerous other boards and commissions: First 5 California (California Children and Families Commission), Olmstead Advisory Committee, Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee, Child Welfare Council, Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Technology Services Board, County Medical Services Program Governing Board, State Mental Health Planning Council, California Workforce Investment Board, San Joaquin Valley Partnership, and the Strategic Growth Council.

Prior to leading CHHS, Ms. Dooley was President and Chief Executive Officer of the California Children's Hospital Association, which advocates for children's health on behalf of the eight, non-profit regional children's hospitals in California. These hospitals provide nearly 40 percent of all inpatient care for children in the state.

Dooley began her professional career as an analyst at the State Personnel Board. In 1975, she was appointed to the staff of Governor Jerry Brown for whom she served as Legislative Director and Special Assistant until the end of his term in 1983. Before becoming an attorney in 1995, she owned a successful public relations and advertising agency. Dooley left her private law practice in December, 2000 to accept the appointment as General Counsel and Vice President at Children's Hospital Central California near Fresno where she established an in-house legal services program and directed the Hospital's advocacy, communications and governmental relations programs.

Dooley is active in civic and community affairs, having served on the Boards of Directors of the UC Merced Foundation, Blood Source of Northern California and The Maddy Institute at California State University, Fresno. She is also a past president of Planned Parenthood, the Visalia Chamber of Commerce and the Central California Futures Institute.

Dooley is a native of Hanford, California and graduated from Hanford High School in 1969. She received her bachelor's degree in Social Science from California State University, Fresno in 1972 and her law degree from San Joaquin College of Law in 1995. She is married to Dan Dooley and has two adult daughters.