



**Clerk of the Board of Supervisors**  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

**Department Name:**

First 5 Children and Families Commission of  
Santa Barbara County

**Department Number:**

994

**Agenda Date:**

July 14, 2026

**Placement:**

Administrative Agenda

**Estimated Time:**

N/A

**Continued Item:**

No

**If Yes, date from:**

N/A

**Vote Required:**

Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Director(s): Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director

**CONTACT:** Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Alternate Community Member to the First 5 Children and Families  
Commission of Santa Barbara County

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**Concurrences:**

**County Counsel Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

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**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the appointment of Frances Contreras as an Alternate Community (twelfth member) to the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County for a term of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028; and

- b) Determine that the above-recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), finding that the action consists of an administrative activity of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

### **Summary Text:**

This item seeks the Board's approval to appoint one Community Alternate to the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County (First 5 Commission). The First 5 Commission recommends the appointment of Frances Contreras as an Alternate Community Member, with a two-year term appointment from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028. This appointment is due to a vacancy on the First 5 Commission. There is no fiscal impact associated with this decision.

### **Discussion:**

The First 5 Commission consists of nine (9) regular members and four (4) alternate members, all of whom are appointed by the Board of Supervisors by ordinance.

Santa Barbara County Code section 41-4 requires the appointment of five Community Members and two Community Alternates to the Commission. Alternate Community Members can serve up to two consecutive two-year terms only. As of December 1, 2025, there was one vacancy for an Alternate Community Member. The Commission opened a month-long recruitment to the community at large, created by the vacancy of alternate Community Members within the Commission. The Commission recommends the appointment of Frances Contreras (Seat Number 12) as an Alternate Community Member based on Ms. Contreras's application (Attachment A).

As stated in the Commission Bylaws, Article 6 (Membership and Terms) requires Community Member Commissioners to represent one of six categories:

1. Recipients of project services included in the county Strategic Plan;
2. Educators specializing in early childhood development;
3. Representatives of a local childcare resource or referral agency, or a local childcare coordinating group;
4. Representatives of local organizations for prevention or early intervention for families at risk;
5. Representatives of community-based organizations that have the goal of promoting nurturing and early childhood development; and
6. Representatives of local medical, pediatric, or obstetric associations or societies.

Based on the applications submitted along with the discussion with the applicants during the interview process, the recommended Community Alternate is categorized as follows:

**Frances Contreras** – Recipients of project services included in the county Strategic Plan

### **Background:**

On November 3, 1998, California voters approved the California Children and Families First Act of 1998 ("the Act"), also known as Proposition 10. The Act was established to promote, support, and enhance the early development of children from the prenatal stage through five years of age. To

achieve this, it imposed a tax on tobacco products, with revenues dedicated to funding programs that support early childhood development.

Following the passage of the Act, the County Board of Supervisors established the Commission in 1999. The Commission is vested with the authority to adopt a strategic plan and allocate funds in accordance with the Act, ensuring that resources are directed toward programs that benefit young children and their families.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There are no Fiscal or Facilities impacts on the First 5 Department by appointing the community member to the Commission.

**Special Instructions:**

Please email a copy of the minute order reflecting the Board's action to the Commission Clerk – Sara Gonzalez.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – Frances Contreras – Application

**Contact Information:**

Wendy Sims-Moten

Executive Director

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