

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



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

## Agenda Number:

**Prepared on:** 4-13-06  
**Department:**  
**Budget Unit:** 044  
**Agenda Date:** May 9, 2006  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Susan Rose,  
Supervisor, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

**STAFF CONTACT:** Rachel Couch  
Administrative Assistant

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Child Care Planning Council document

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## Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Priorities for Subsidized Child Development Program Funding, Santa Barbara County, to be submitted by the Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council to the California Department of Education (Attachment A).

## Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 7: "A community that fosters the safety and well-being of families and children."

## Executive Summary and Discussion:

Santa Barbara County's original Child Care Planning Council ("the Council" or "CCPC") was formed by the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools in 1990 as a result of the 1990 Federal Omnibus Budget Act. The role of the Council was to develop a local plan and priorities for distribution of the new Federal Child Care Block Grant funds. For its first few years, financial support for the Council's activities was provided entirely through in-kind services donated by the County Office of Education and Council members. Since 1994 the Council has received annual grants from the California Department of Education. Funds provided to the Council are administered by the Santa Barbara County Education Office.

Since the inception of the CCPC, members have worked to coordinate and plan the delivery of child care services in Santa Barbara County, serve as liaison between the State Department of Education, Child Development Division and the local community, and provide support and training to the Early Childhood Education Community.

Pursuant to the Statutes of 1997, AB 1542, which established California's welfare reform program (CalWORKs), a local Child Care Planning Council must be established in each county (Education Code Chapter 2.3, Sections 8499.3 and 8499). On April 28, 1998, your Board (in conjunction with the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools, which has joint authority over the Council) amended the functions, governance, structure, membership and bylaws of the existing Council to conform to the requirements of welfare reform as defined by AB 1542.

### Recommendation 1: Priorities for Subsidized Child Development Program Funding

Among the statutory mandates for the Council is the obligation to determine priority areas for child care and development programs in the county. Education Code Section 8499.5(b)(6) requires Child Care Planning Councils to conduct periodic reviews of need for, and supply of, child care and development programs funded by the California Department of Education. The Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council reviews the Priorities every year and presents them to the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools for approval if they are changed.

In March 2006, the Council appointed an ad hoc committee to review the Priorities. The Priorities Committee used data from multiple sources in reviewing and establishing priorities. The sources included census data on numbers of children by age, numbers of children in families with all parents employed, income of families, numbers of children eligible for free or reduced-fee lunch, numbers of children in kindergartens receiving free or reduced-fee lunch, supply of state and federal subsidized child care and development spaces and current program contractors' reports of ability to expand services.. Data gathered were used to determine the Priorities identified in Attachment A.

The California Department of Education requires the approval of the County Priorities of an authorized representative of your Board and by the Superintendent of Schools. William J. Cirone, County Superintendent of Schools, has indicated his approval of the County Priorities by signing the County Priorities Report Form to be sent to the California Department of Education (see Attachment B.) The approval of the County Priorities by your Board, as signified by the signature of the Chair on the California Department of Education County Priorities Report Form, is now requested.

### **Mandates and Service Levels:**

Local Child Care Planning Councils are mandated by Education Code Chapter 2.3, Sections 8499.3 and 8499. This action does not change County programs or service levels.

### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

None to County Government.

**Special Instructions:**

After approval and passage by the Board, please send the following documents to the office of Supervisor Rose, Attn. Rachel Couch:

1. two (2) certified copies of the Minute Order
2. two (2) original signed "County Priorities Report Form"

**Concurrence:**

County Counsel

**Attachments:**

- A. Priorities for Subsidized Child Development Program Funding, Santa Barbara County (Attachment A)
- B. Priorities for Subsidized Child Development Program Funding, Santa Barbara County Report Form (Attachment B)