



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

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

Submitted on:  
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: First 5 Children and Families  
Commission  
Department No.: 994  
Agenda Date: July 15, 2025  
Placement: Administrative Agenda  
Estimated Time: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from: N/A  
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Department Director(s): Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director  
Contact: Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Reappointment of County Members to the First 5 Children and Families  
Commission of Santa Barbara County

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the reappointment of the following individuals as regular County Members of the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County for a term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026:
  - i) Daniel Nielson, Director of the Social Services Department,
  - ii) Antonette Navarro, Director of the Behavioral Wellness Department, and
  - iii) Mouhanad Hammami, Director of the County Health Department;
- b) Approve the reappointment of Holly Benton, Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department, as an alternate County Member of the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County for a term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026; and
- c) Determine that the above-recommended actions are 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 actions consist of administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County (First 5 Commission) recommends the reappointment of Social Services Director Daniel Neilson, Behavioral Wellness Director Antonette Navarro, and County Health Director Mouhanad Hammami as regular County Members of the First 5 Commission and Chief Probation Officer Holly Benton as an alternate County Member. The term of each appointment is July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

**Discussion:**

The First 5 Commission consists of nine regular members and four alternate members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Three County Members and one alternate County Member must be appointed from among the county health officer and directors of the following county functions: Social services, Behavioral Wellness services, Probation, or Public Health services.

**Background:**

First 5 Santa Barbara County was established in 1999 after California voters passed Proposition 10, a state constitutional amendment. Proposition 10 imposed a 50-cent sales tax on tobacco products and directed that those revenues be used to support early childhood development focusing on prenatal to age five.

The First 5 Commission oversees how Proposition 10 dollars are spent and provides public oversight, accountability, and reporting on the effectiveness of those expenditures.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There are no Fiscal and Facilities impacts to the First 5 Department by reappointing the county members to the Commission.

**Special Instructions:**

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

**Contact Information:**

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Executive Director  
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