



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

Department Name: CEO  
Department No.: 012  
For Agenda Of: 6/16/09  
Placement: Set Hearing  
Estimated Tme: 5 minutes on 6/23/09  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Michael F. Brown, County Executive Officer  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO, 568.3412  
**SUBJECT: Summit on Reforming the Governance of California**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Select\_Other  
As to form: Select\_Concurrence

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:  
Set a hearing for June 23, 2009 regarding the summit on reforming the governance of California.

That the Board of Supervisors, on June 23, 2009:

- (A) Adopt the attached resolution endorsing the convening of a summit of local government leaders on reforming the governance of California.
- (B) Appoint two supervisors to accompany the County Executive Officer and represent the County of Santa Barbara at the proposed CCS Partnership Summit on Budget and Fiscal Reform.

**Summary Text:**

The Cities-Counties-Schools (CCS) Partnership is sponsoring a statewide summit on state governance, budget and fiscal reform in Sacramento on July 17-18, 2009. The CCS Partnership, established in 1997, is a joint effort of the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and California School Boards Association (CSBA) that collectively works to promote the development of public policies that build and preserve communities through the encouragement of local collaborative efforts. Since February 2009, the CSS Partnership has been focusing on state budget and fiscal reform. The summit will include discussions on the history of the state-local fiscal relationship, the state's governance crisis and draft principles pertaining to restoring local control.

**Background:**

This item is on the Board of Supervisors' agenda in order to adopt a resolution endorsing the convening of a summit of local government leaders on reforming the governance of California and appoint two

Board members to accompany the County Executive Officer in attending the upcoming summit. Said resolution acknowledges that late and inadequate state budgets disrupt the ability of local governments to deliver vital services; that over-concentration of decision-making at the state level compromises true community priority setting and spending decisions; that the state provides neither adequate funding nor the flexibility in using state funding for effective community service delivery and that key state reforms should provide greater autonomy, flexibility and fiscal tools to local governments so they can deliver the highest quality local services and other reforms that would aid the state in executing its important statewide responsibilities in a stable, predictable, and accountable manner.

These principles are in accordance with the County's adopted legislative platform and principles pertaining to fiscal stability, inter-agency collaboration, local control and mandate reimbursement and relief. On June 1, 2009, the County's Legislative Program Committee ("Committee") recommended to bring the resolution to the Board of Supervisors for consideration. The Committee recommends supporting *the summit* and dialog on budget, fiscal and governance reform. In addition to this summit, other efforts are underway via state legislation and the initiative process to establish a constitutional convention. Article 18 of the California Constitution provides for the creation of a convention to revise the constitution. However, the Committee has not made any recommendations regarding a *Constitutional convention* at this time.

**Performance Measure:**

N/A

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Narrative: N/A

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

N/A

**FTEs:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA ENDORSING THE CONVENING OF A SUMMIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERS ON REFORMING THE GOVERNANCE OF CALIFORNIA

**Authored by:**

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