



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: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: August 14, 2007
Placement: Set hearing
Estimated Tme: 15 minutes on 8/21/07
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Michael F. Brown, County Executive Officer
Director
Contact Info: Terri Maus Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, 568.3400
SUBJECT: Consider Response to the Grand Jury Report on “Effects of Immigration in Santa Barbara County”

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Set a hearing (estimated 15 minutes) for August 21, 2007 to consider the responses to the Civil Grand Jury report entitled “Effects of Immigration in Santa Barbara County: A Balanced Assessment.”

On August 21, 2007:

- a. Adopt the responses in Attachment (1) as the Board of Supervisors’ responses to the 2006-07 Grand Jury Report entitled “Effects of Immigration in Santa Barbara County: A Balanced Assessment”, and
- b. Authorize the Chair to sign the letter included in Attachment (1) forwarding the responses to the Presiding Judge.

Summary Text:

On June 4, 2007, the Civil Grand Jury released a report entitled “Effects of Immigration in Santa Barbara County: A Balanced Assessment”. The purpose of this report, as noted on page 1 of the Summary, was to investigate the effects of immigration within the County to ascertain both the benefits and liabilities created by immigrants. The report includes four findings and four recommendations.

It is recommended that the Board adopt the responses to the Grand Jury Report contained in the attached letter to the Presiding Judge.

Background:

This item is on the Board's agenda due to a statutory requirement. Per California Penal Code Section 933 (b), the governing body of the agency, the Board of Supervisors, must respond within 90 days after the issuance of the Grand Jury Report. Therefore, the Board of Supervisors' response must be finalized and transmitted to the Courts and the Grand Jury no later than September 2, 2007.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

No impacts associated with responding to this report. However, if the Board should consult with experts and develop techniques to obtain better data (recommendation 2), there may be associated fiscal costs.

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: There is no fiscal cost associated with departments utilizing existing government databases (Recommendation 3a). However, actively monitoring the status of immigrants beyond what is legally required by the federal or state government, developing additional techniques to obtain better data (recommendation 2) or measuring and reporting on the effects of immigration (recommendation 1) may necessitate additional resources.

Special Instructions:

The response of the Board of Supervisors must be transmitted to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court no later than September 2, 2007. The Clerk of the Board is requested to return the signed letter to Brenda Castillo, County Executive Office, for distribution to the Superior Court. The signed letter, written responses and a 3 1/2" computer disc with the response in a Microsoft Word file must be forwarded to the Grand Jury.

Attachments: *

1. Letter to the Superior Court Judge with Board of Supervisors Responses
2. Grand Jury Report entitled "Effects of Immigration in Santa Barbara County: A Balanced Assessment"

Authored by:

Sharon Friedrichsen, County Executive Office, 568-3107

cc:

John Torell, Director, Housing and Community Development
Dr. Elliot Schulman, Director/Health Officer, Public Health Department
Bill Brown, Sheriff
Kathy Gallagher, Director, Social Services