



Santa Barbara County Education Office

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November 14, 2011

Honorable Salud Carbajal
105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Supervisor Carbajal:

I am writing in support of Item D-4, the County Poverty Initiative, which is being considered by the Board of Supervisors on Nov. 15.

As the Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools, I know firsthand how poverty negatively impacts children and families throughout our community. When children's basic needs are not met, their academic and social interactions suffer. Information is power and the proposed community assessment will provide much needed information that will enable government agencies, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders to more effectively and more efficiently target services for children and families.

I strongly urge the Board of Supervisors to support this poverty analysis and appreciate your bringing forward this initiative.

Sincerely,


William J. Cirone

WJC:maw