



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:** First 5 Children and Families Commission  
**Department No.:** 994  
**For Agenda Of:** June 25, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** First 5 Steve Ortiz, Chair  
First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County  
Contact Info: Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director  
First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County, (805) 884-8086  
**SUBJECT:** Reappointment of County Members to the First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

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, 2024, through June 30, 2025:
  - 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 Public 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, 2024, through June 30, 2025; and
- c. Determine that the above actions are organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and are, therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

**Summary Text:**

The First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County (“Commission”) consists of nine (9) regular members and four (4) alternate members, all of whom are appointed by the Board of Supervisors by ordinance. Members of the Commission devote a substantial amount of time attending required monthly meetings, evaluating funding proposals, and monitoring outcomes of existing grants and the ongoing Strategic Plan. Regular and alternate Commission members are expected to attend all meetings of the Commission.

**Background:**

First 5 Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara County was established in 1999 after California voters passed Proposition 10, a state constitutional amendment. Proposition 10 imposed a sales tax on tobacco products and directed that those revenues be used to support early childhood development, focusing on children from prenatal through age five. The Santa Barbara County Code requires the appointment to the Commission of three County Members and one County Alternate from the following County departments:

- Social Services Department,
- Behavioral Wellness Department,
- Probation Department, and
- Public Health Department.

The re-appointment of Director Neilson, Director Navarro, Director Hammami, and Chief Benton accomplishes this requirement.

**Special Instructions:**

Please email a copy of the minute order reflecting the Board’s action to the Commission – Attention: Sara Gonzalez.

**Attachments:** N/A

**Authored by:**

Wendy Sims-Moten, Executive Director

**CC:**

Daniel Nielson, Director, Social Services Department  
Antonette Navarro, Director, Behavioral Wellness Department  
Mouhanad Hammami, Director, Public Health Department  
Holly Benton, Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department