



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

March 19, 2010

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To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair  
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From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

## **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum includes a pursuit of position on legislation to require schools and After School Education and Safety Programs to provide physical education programs that include moderate to vigorous physical activity; a pursuit of position on a State Budget item related to funding for the LEADER Replacement System; a change of position on County-advocacy legislation related to audits of State mandates; and an update on actions taken by the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services relating to the Governor's FY 2010-11 Proposed Budget.

### **Pursuit of County Position on Legislation**

**AB 2705 (Hall)**, as introduced on February 19, 2010, would promote increased physical activity for school-aged children by: 1) requiring children in grades 1 through 6 to spend at least 50 percent of the time in physical education classes in moderate to vigorous physical activities; and 2) establishing a component for After School Education and Safety Programs to provide an element of physical fitness consisting of at least 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity. The bill also cites legislative intent to increase flexibility of joint use policies and practices between schools and communities to identify creative solutions to increase access to safe places for children to play and exercise. This measure would be effective January 1, 2013.

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), indicates that AB 2705 would encourage partnerships between schools and local park agencies to increase access to constructive environments for physical education. In addition, integrating physical fitness in After School Education and Safety Programs and for students in grades 1 through 6 would support local efforts to reduce the rate of obesity among school-aged children and assist students to establish healthy habits to be active for life. DPR has a number of community recreation agreements with schools to allow joint use of their

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respective facilities. This measure may provide expanded flexible uses for these facilities to promote physical activities for school-aged children.

The Department of Parks and Recreation and this office support AB 2705. Therefore, consistent with existing Board policy to support proposals that encourage physical activity, encourage all children to participate in programs that involve increased physical activity to address the obesity issue in our youth, and promote partnering opportunities with schools for youth programs that incorporate positive recreation alternatives, **the Sacramento advocates will support AB 2705.**

AB 2705 is sponsored by Governor Schwarzenegger. There is no registered support or opposition on file. This measure is currently awaiting referral to a policy committee.

#### **Pursuit of County Position on a State Budget Item**

The Governor's FY 2010-11 Budget proposes to provide \$45.5 million to begin the design, development, and implementation phase of the Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation, and Reporting (LEADER) Replacement System (LRS) Project, with work commencing January 2011. Since the project began in July 2005, enacted prior year State Budgets have appropriated \$6.0 million, which allowed the California Health and Human Services Agency Office of Systems Integration to complete work with the County Department of Public Social Services on planning and procurement activities for the LRS Project.

The County relies on LEADER to support over 12,000 users and to calculate and track over \$3.0 billion in annual benefits issued to over 2.2 million beneficiaries. The system was developed in the 1990s and the LRS Project is considered an effective long-term solution to address the growing risk of operating LEADER.

The LRS Project will also consolidate and strengthen the following systems:

- Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation, and Reporting System (i.e., CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, General Relief and Food Stamps eligibility);
- The Greater Avenues for Independence Employment and Reporting System;
- The General Relief Opportunity for Work System; and
- Five different Department of Children and Family Services systems, including:
  - Automated Provider Payment System;
  - Integrated Financial System;
  - Adoption Assistance Payment;
  - Welfare Case Management Information System; and
  - EW Works.

The FY 2009-10 State Budget Act included a six-month delay in funding for the design, development, and implementation phase of the LRS Project which delayed the start date from January 1, 2010 to July 1, 2010. Although the Governor's Budget proposal would further delay the start date for an additional six months to January 2011, this proposal represents the minimum commitment necessary to move the LRS Project forward and avoid termination of the entire project. Currently, the County is in contract negotiations with the selected vendor.

The LRS Project stands as a strategic long-term automation investment to safeguard the integrity of benefits and services provided to Los Angeles County's most vulnerable, low-income children and families. Furthermore, the LRS Project investment is a necessary next step, technologically, to move the State toward a more effective set of Statewide Automated Welfare System Consortia.

The Department of Public Social Services and this office support funding for the LRS Project. Therefore, consistent with Board-approved policies to support funding for ongoing procurement, development and maintenance activities for LEADER, as well as support funding to modify the County's automated systems in any legislation containing policy changes that impact those systems, **the Sacramento advocates will support efforts to maintain the funding necessary to support the design, development, implementation, and maintenance phases of the LRS Project.**

#### **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**

**County-supported AB 548 (Chesbro)**, as amended on March 1, 2010, deleted provisions which would have reformed the mandate claims reimbursement process to require the State Controller to initiate an audit of a local mandate reimbursement claim within four years from the time the claim was filed, rather than three years from the time the reimbursement payment on the claim was made by the State. As amended, AB 548 would authorize the Riverside Unified School District to claim funding for the Class Reduction Program. **Therefore, the Sacramento advocates will remove support for AB 548 and take no position on this measure.**

#### **Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Health and Human Services Actions on the Governor's Proposed Budget**

Today, the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services rejected, by a vote of 2 to 0, the Governor's Budget Trigger proposals to eliminate the CalWORKs, In-Home Supportive Services and Transitional Housing Placement Plus Program, if the State fails to receive \$6.9 billion in Federal funding.

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The Subcommittee also reviewed the Governor's FY 2010-11 Budget proposal to provide \$45.5 million to begin the design, development, and implementation phase of the Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation, and Reporting (LEADER) Replacement System (LRS) Project. The California Department of Social Services provided information about the implementation status of LRS Project and the purpose to fund the budget request. The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) provided a brief presentation with alternative recommendations to fund LRS Project but did not distribute any documents at the hearing. The LAO representative explained how the proposals may save the State funding. The Subcommittee did not take any action.

In addition, on March 11, 2010, the Subcommittee rejected the Governor's FY 2010-11 Budget proposal to seek voter approval to redirect \$452.3 million from the Mental Health Services Act (Proposition 63) to the State General Fund to pay the State's obligation for Mental Health Managed Care and the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program, by a vote of 2 to 0. The Department of Mental Health estimated that if the Governor's proposal was approved by the voters, it would result in a County loss of \$121.8 million in FY 2010-11.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA  
MR:VE:IGEA:sb

c: All Department Heads  
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