

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND
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The County of Los Angeles Public Library (Public Library) supports efforts to engage children and families by providing free materials and learning resources that stimulate growth, development, knowledge and imagination, especially for children. As trusted centers of the community, Public Library is committed to helping youth in our communities gain access to offerings via a new student library card created as part of the national Library Card Challenge (Challenge). The Challenge, launched in 2015 by President Obama and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, ensures that every child enrolled in school has access to library resources by equipping them with their own library card.

With the Board's support for the Challenge, since November 2017, the Public Library has committed to improve educational outcomes for students, and to strengthen the partnership among local government, public libraries and schools. As part of these efforts the Public Library has connected with every school Superintendent in more than 40 school districts within the Public Library service area. In preparation for school visits

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the Public Library has created special book covers and bookmarks for students, Librarian Tool Kits, classroom “Thank You” bags, and data collection tools including a teacher survey to better understand how the Public Library’s resources can assist with success in school. The Public Library continues to support the important work of schools by providing free access to books and materials, online tools, such as research databases, homework help, and language classes, and many educational and enrichment activities that encourage exploration and creativity.

With a commitment to provide increased access to library services and resources in underserved communities, the Public Library’s new student library card is fine-free for all students 17 years old and under and allows students to check out a maximum of three print items at a time, and have full access to online resources. For the initial outreach to schools, the Public Library will be issuing the student library cards to third-graders attending schools within the Public Library service area. The Public Library has also developed an animated video which features some of the cool, exciting things that the library offers to students. The video and other library services available to students will also be featured on the Public Library’s website, at colapublib.org/students.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Find that the proposed actions are not projects pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines. These proposed actions would create a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to a specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

- 2) Instruct the County Librarian to implement, effective immediately, a fine-free student library card for students 17 years old and under.
- 3) Authorize and delegate authority to the County Librarian to execute documents and agreements to partner with K-12 schools, at no cost to the County and subject to approval by County Counsel as to form, to help meet the goals of the Challenge.

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