

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

November 22, 2005

RELATED TO AGENDA ITEM 19

As a result of my motion regarding the Public Guardian in September 2004, BLUE CONSULTING concluded a Public Guardian Special Study, and made numerous recommendations for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Guardian’s operations and services delivery. The Public Guardian must continue its efforts in establishing and preparing for future allocation of funds and resources expected as a result of the growing age population in Los Angeles County – expected to double over the next decade. Emphasis must also be added regarding the current organizational structure and responsibilities of staff within the Public Guardian as referenced in the BLUE CONSULTING recommendations. A sense of urgency, accountability, and responsibility are also key elements in addressing referrals to the Public Guardian.

In May 2005, we directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Department of Mental Health on a graduated allocation of funds for staff resources in the Public Guardian probate conservatorship program, starting with the 2005-06 fiscal

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MOTION

Burke	_____
Yaroslavsky	_____
Knabe	_____
Antonovich	_____
Molina	_____

year. However, allocation decisions made were based only on current unmet needs. Further analysis must be conducted regarding increases in the aged population, the monitoring of public and private conservators, and in reducing the number of elderly in-need population who are not currently receiving services.

It is also imperative that we preserve and expand all volunteer programs such as the Guardian Circle that enrich the lives of conservatees who are often isolated by their disabilities. We must continue to support all volunteer groups that are willing and able to provide these vital services.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the:

1. Chief Administrative Officer to work in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health, the Treasurer Tax Collector, County Counsel, and the Superior Court on future anticipated fiscal and/or resource needs for the Public Guardian probate conservatorship program through 2010 with a report back in 60 days.
2. Chief Administrative Officer to work in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health Public Guardian, the Department of Consumer Affairs, County Counsel, to report back to the Board with recommendation on the oversight and monitoring of private conservators in Los Angeles County in two weeks.

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I, FURTHER MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Mental Health Public Guardian to report back to the Board in two weeks on:

3. The status of the implementation plan and timeline of the Blue Consulting recommendations for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Guardian's operations and service delivery in conjunction with the Auditor Controller;
4. The status of the Guardian Circle volunteer program in the effort of expanding visitation of conservatees in Los Angeles County, which may also include efforts to partner with related volunteer programs servicing similar populations;
5. Efficiencies that may be addressed and implemented regarding organization structure, accountability, and responsibility in meeting the needs of the elderly or otherwise infirmed individuals who are not able to care for themselves in Los Angeles County.

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