

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS    DECEMBER 14, 2010**

**REVIEW OF REENTRY REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

On December 2, 2010, a report on reentry, commissioned by the Second District, was released entitled Juvenile Reentry in Los Angeles County: An Exploration of the Strengths, Barriers and Policy Options (the Report). The Report was authored by graduate students Michelle Newell and Angelica Salazar, under the supervision of Professors Julie Wilson and Tim Nelson of the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. Ms. Newell and Ms. Salazar are now with the Children's Defense Fund.

The Report reviewed the question of how to best transition young offenders back into the community and reduce their recidivism rates. The Report focused on the impact of current Los Angeles County practices on the juvenile population. The Report also provides insights on how we can give minors, young adults, and adults options to ease their way back into the community, and do so in a manner as to become more productive members of our community.

- MORE -      RET/M      MOTION

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The subject of reentry is an important topic in Los Angeles, since reducing rates of recidivism have a direct impact on reentry strategies. The true recidivism rate in Los Angeles County is unknown because recidivism is so narrowly defined and the Probation Department's data collection and analysis need to be improved. When the recidivism rates for adult and juvenile offenders remain high, it represents a disruptive effect on the communities in which they reside. Each time a juvenile re-offends, it produces multiple disruptions in the community: to the offender, to the offender's family, and, most importantly, to the victims of the offenders. These disruptions all create a financial burden on society that compounds over time.

The Report makes ten recommendations to reintegrate and transition youth into their respective communities. Multiple County departments should consider these recommendations in the development of public policy recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

The Department of Community and Senior Services (DCSS) has obtained a Youth Offender Reentry Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, and together with the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (HRC) and the UCLA Department of Social Welfare, will review and analyze different reentry strategies for juveniles in the County of Los Angeles. This report will be forthcoming to the Board of Supervisors in the near future.

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**I THEREFORE MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Chief Executive Officer to review the reentry report entitled Juvenile Reentry in Los Angeles County: An Exploration of the Strengths, Barriers and Policy Options and ensure that the Report and its recommendations, as deemed appropriate, are incorporated into the Department of Community and Senior Services' report recently commissioned using the Youth Offender Reentry Planning Grant received from the U.S. Department of Labor.

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