

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

November 10, 2009

**STATE REDUCTIONS TO FUNDING FOR EMANCIPATED YOUTH**

Last week the State notified Los Angeles County of the elimination of Emancipated Youth Stipends and of reductions to the Independent Living Program, resulting in a total loss of \$2.3 million in services to emancipating and emancipated foster youth in Los Angeles County.

These State cuts result in a loss to Los Angeles County of \$1.5 million dollars in Emancipated Youth Stipends (EYS), which are 100 percent State-funded and used to support the unmet financial needs of emancipated foster youth such as tuition, room and board, books and supplies, food and transportation. Furthermore, these cuts result in a reduction of \$800,000 to Los Angeles County's Independent Living Program (ILP) funding, which funds life skills training, housing and scholarships for emancipating DCFS- and Probation-supervised youth.

Annually, Los Angeles County has 1,800 youth aging out of the DCFS and Probation systems who depend upon these funds to assist with their successful transition into adulthood. The loss of these funds will directly contribute to their homelessness, joblessness and long-term dependence on public assistance. We must ensure that the futures of Los Angeles County's most vulnerable youth are protected through appropriate services and supports so that they can become productive adult members of society.

M-O-R-E

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

STATE REDUCTIONS TO FUNDING FOR EMANCIPATED YOUTH

November 6, 2009

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

1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, the Sacramento advocates and the Department of Children and Family Services to work with appropriate Statewide associations, advocate groups, Legislative staff, the California Department of Social Services and the Administration, to fully restore funding for Emancipated Youth Stipends and the Independent Living Program through the State Budget process; and,
  
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, the Director of Children and Family Services, and the Chief Probation Officer to report back in 30 days on developing a coordinated plan to continue meeting the ongoing service needs of youth receiving Emancipated Youth Stipends and Independent Living Program services.

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MDA:hbb

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