

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

May 22, 2012

Advocating to Minimize Harm in the State Changes Which Affect Child Development Services

As California continues to struggle with a crushing budget deficit, Governor Brown has put forth a budget which includes a series of substantial cuts to social services.

In addition to dramatically reducing the budget for subsidized child development services, the Governor is proposing to move the administration of most subsidized child development programs from the California Department of Education (CDE) to county welfare departments, effective Fiscal Year 2013-14.

If enacted, the impact of these proposals will be felt throughout Los Angeles County (County):

- Subsidized child development services in the County will be reduced by 30 percent;
- 10,000 fewer children of low income families will receive subsidized child development services;
- \$150 million in child care subsidies will be lost to the County as will hundreds of child care related jobs; and

- MORE -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

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KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

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- A number of school districts and non-profit organizations will close their State-funded early education programs or transition these programs to fee-based operations. This will result in a loss of programs which comply with substantially higher standards than those required by Community Care Licensing.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Send a letter to Governor Brown and the Los Angeles County's state legislative delegation, recommending the following alternatives to the Governor's proposed budget:

- Rather than moving subsidized child development services out of the California Department of Education (CDE) to county welfare agencies, CDE be charged to streamline the subsidized child development system, including but not limited to: consolidating similar contracts; amending contracts to include more focus on performance; structuring contracts to maximize the use of State, Federal and local resources; simplifying eligibility and reimbursement determinations; and facilitating the articulation between child development and the K-12 systems. The effect of these changes should substantially minimize the need to cut dollars from the programs; and
- Any statutory changes needed to streamline the administration of subsidized child development services should be enacted in a timely manner to minimize disruption in care.

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