

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

APRIL 7, 2026

Proclaiming April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, when counties and cities across the country uplift the importance of safeguarding the well-being of children, centering and strengthening families, and building communities so that children can grow up safe, healthy, and supported. California’s statewide theme this year is “Strong Families, Safe Futures,” which underscores that when families are supported and empowered, children thrive and communities experience long-term well-being. Preventive efforts are key to ensuring the safety, well-being, quality of life, and joy of the County’s children, which is a paramount priority. This is especially prevalent following a year that has brought unforeseen challenges to Los Angeles County communities, underscoring the importance of addressing childhood trauma, emotional and physical, within and outside of families.

This year hundreds of children across Los Angeles County participated in the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) Associates Child Abuse Prevention Month Children’s Poster Art Contest, raising awareness in the importance of preventing child abuse. This project provides students with the opportunity to express their ideas and concerns about children who experience trauma and abuse. Students

MOTION

Mitchell _____

Horvath _____

Hahn _____

Barger _____

Solis _____

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across 4th, 5th and 6th grade have created inspirational artwork, highlighting the importance of preventing child abuse. Over the years, over twenty-five thousand students have participated in this contest. The Board of Supervisors congratulates these young artists and their teachers, parents, and schools for their support of this enlightening project, hosted by ICAN.

Among the County's efforts to protect children and prevent abuse are the ICAN Safe Sleep for Baby Campaign. The Department of Public Health (DPH) joined with ICAN, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Department of Health Services (DHS) by initiating a Safe Sleep program in County hospitals to provide cribs to all new parents who otherwise do not have a place for their infants to sleep. Olive View Medical Center and Harbor UCLA were the first to launch this project, including car seats along with cribs, with this life-saving effort soon to-be expanded into Los Angeles General Medical Center.

The Board of Supervisors has also supported ICAN's No Hit Campaign by declaring Los Angeles County a No Hit Zone. The message that it is unacceptable to hit another person, large or small, is an important step toward preventing child abuse and achieving a culture of non-violence at home and in schools. Los Angeles County has also led the charge for the Safe Surrender campaign, and as a result, nearly 300 newborn babies have been safely surrendered, most of them adopted into loving homes.

This April, the County reaffirms its commitment to the prevention of child abuse,

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including working to ensure that families have access to the resources, relationships, and supports they need to navigate daily life. This is especially pivotal as families confront rising costs, heightened stress, and an increasingly weakened safety net. The County remains steadfast in safeguarding the needs of children and youth.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim the month of April 2026 as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” throughout Los Angeles County in honor of our children and families at risk, and recognize the professionals and volunteers who work to promote their safety and joy.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached resolution recognizing April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month, uplifting the importance of preventing and addressing incidents of child abuse countywide, and celebrating the children, professionals, and volunteers who have dedicated their hearts and minds to promoting joy and assuring safety of children and families throughout Los Angeles County.

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HLS:ac

**RESOLUTION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, recognized in counties and cities across the nation; and,

WHEREAS, California's statewide theme this year is "Strong Families, Safe Futures," which underscores that when families are supported and empowered, children thrive and communities experience long-term well-being; and,

WHEREAS, the safety, well-being, quality of life, and joy of the County's children is a paramount priority; and,

WHEREAS, many children in Los Angeles County are experiencing challenges that can impact their health, mental health and sense of safety; and,

WHEREAS, abused children are often sadly vulnerable to future problems including depression, substance abuse, educational failures and repeated victimization; and,

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse requires a community-wide effort including schools, healthcare providers, law enforcement, child welfare professionals, counselors, friends and neighbors; and,

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse through public awareness campaigns such as the ICAN No Hit, Infant Safe Sleep and Safe Surrender campaigns has been an important step toward reducing harm and death of our County's children; and,

WHEREAS, over 500 children in 4th, 5th and 6th grades throughout LA County participated in the 2026 ICAN Child Abuse Prevention Month PosterArt Contest, creating inspirational messages through their artwork and revealing their concerns and hopes for children at risk of abuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors proclaims April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Los Angeles County, and recognize the children, professionals and volunteers who have dedicated their hearts and minds to promoting joy and ensuring safety of children and families throughout Los Angeles County.

The foregoing Resolution was on the ___ day of _____ 2026, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and *ex officio* the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

EDWARD YEN, Executive Officer-Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

By: 
Deputy