

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Tavaglione

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 28, 2007

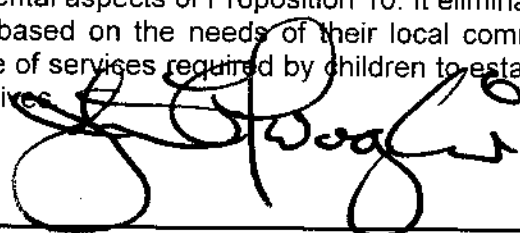
SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution 2007-184, Opposing SB 893

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors adopt Resolution 2007-184, Opposing Senate Bill 893

BACKGROUND: The Riverside County Children and Families Commission was established by this Board in the adoption of Ordinance 784, enacted on January 22, 1999. The Commission implements the provisions of Proposition 10, which mandates early childhood programs funded from revenue on tobacco products. Proposition 10, approved by California's voters in 1998, enables County Commissions to fund the comprehensive array of health, education and child services required to help our youngest children develop a strong foundation for success in school and throughout their lives.

Senate Bill 893, introduced by Senator Cox, and currently in the Senate Health Subcommittee, would require that all revenues gathered pursuant to Prop. 10 be allocated exclusively to provide health care services. If passed, this bill thwarts two of the fundamental aspects of Proposition 10. It eliminates the ability of County Commissions to make funding decisions based on the needs of their local community, and eliminates the ability to fund the comprehensive range of services required by children to establish a strong foundation for success in school and throughout their lives.

Continued on page two



John Tavaglione, Supervisor, 2nd District

Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District:

Agenda Number:

3.52

Background [Cont.]:

This local decision making process is one of the strengths of Proposition 10, and has resulted in Riverside's Commission allocating over \$160,000,000 to nearly 200 separate agencies since 1999. These funds have resulted in services benefiting more than 100,000 children 0-5 years of age.

The Riverside County Children and Families Commission recognizes the value of health insurance coverage for young children, and currently provides funds to the Healthy Kids program, the health insurance program set up by this Board, and administered by Inland Empire Health Plan. This funding covers health insurance for children 0-5 years of age. The Commission funds the Healthy Kids program at \$2 million annually, and provides coverage for over 2,000 children.

The Commission recognizes however that health insurance is just one of many services required by children to establish the strong foundation required for success in school and throughout their lives. As a result, the Riverside County Children and Families Commission funds health related services not covered by health insurance, and additionally funds programs in the areas of education, preschool, and child care provided by public and community based agencies throughout Riverside County.

Passage of SB 893 would effectively eliminate the need for Prop. 10 Commissions at the County level, and would result in the elimination of all local programs currently funded by the Riverside County Children and Families Commission with the exception of Health Kids.

I urge the members of this Board to join me opposing SB 893 in adopting Resolution 2007-184.

2
3 **Resolution No. 2007-184**

4 **A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**
5 **OPPOSING SENATE BILL 893**

6 **WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 893 would shift all Proposition 10 revenue away from First 5
7 Riverside County and direct it to the statewide California Families and Children's Commission to
8 distribute for the exclusive purpose of providing health care services to children; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Two of the key elements of Proposition 10, approved by the voters in 1998,
10 include the ability of County Commission's to allocate funds based on local needs, and the ability
11 of County Commission's to allocate funds for an array of services required by young children to
12 ensure healthy development and school readiness; and

13 **WHEREAS**, funding would no longer be allocated by a local body but by a statewide
14 Commission for a single purpose eliminate the ability of First 5 Riverside County to allocate
15 funds based on local needs; and

16 **WHEREAS**, since Proposition 10 was approved by California's voters in 1998, First 5
17 Riverside County has dedicated over \$160 million to programs aimed at improving the lives of
18 Riverside County's youngest and most vulnerable residents; and

19 **WHEREAS**, programs funded by First 5 Riverside include an comprehensive array of
20 services addressing children's health, education, preschool and child care needs; and

21 **WHEREAS**, these funded services are designed to help establish a strong foundation for
22 children, increasing the likelihood of success in school and throughout their lives; and

23 **WHEREAS**, if SB 893 becomes law, Riverside County's children and their families would
24 no longer have access to a variety of quality programs as determined by the local body.

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Riverside County Board of
26 Supervisors opposes Senate Bill 893 because of its impact on local decision making and
27 Riverside County's children and families.

28 **COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

By: _____
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

By: _____
Clerk of the Board