

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022**

Item 5-1

MINUTE ORDER NO. 15

**SUBJECT: SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHILDCARE BOARD CONFERENCE
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

Childcare has become an issue of regional significance, and it is imperative that the San Diego County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) take steps to explore the problem in greater depth, along with generating potential solutions.

The Board and County have taken a greater role in the childcare sector, including efforts led by the First 5 Commission, securing \$10 million for Frontline Worker Childcare Vouchers during the COVID-19 pandemic, securing \$1 million to support YMCA Summer Camp operations and scholarships so children from low-income homes would have a safe place to be while their parents went back to work, and the recent allocation of \$12 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds toward childcare.

The Board Conference convened at this meeting will present the Board with an overview of childcare related challenges in the region, including affordability and availability of childcare spaces, and generating potential solutions.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHAIR NATHAN FLETCHER

1. Receive information presented in the San Diego County Childcare Board Conference.
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to review the proposed solutions as directed by the Board and, within eight months, report back with recommendations regarding the County's participation in those proposed solutions.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Childcare options are unaffordable to many San Diegans, and working families are struggling to make ends meet. The annual cost of care for one infant in a licensed childcare center in San Diego costs over \$19,000. Further, childcare workers are underpaid; the median hourly wage in California for these employees is \$12.29 per hour. One in four childcare workers in California lives in poverty. Women are disproportionately affected, and particularly women of color. Today's action to convene the Childcare Board Conference will help the Board of Supervisors develop solutions around childcare and promote equity for parents and providers, while supporting improved outcomes for our children.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Convening the Childcare Board Conference supports the County's Sustainability Goals by exploring the need to provide just and equitable access to quality and affordable childcare.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There may be future fiscal impacts based on recommendations from today’s action. Any such recommendations would return back for consideration and approval by the Board. Upon return by staff, funding for future costs will need to be identified by the department and will proceed once identified. At this time, there will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

The annual national cost of lost earnings, productivity, and revenue due to the childcare crisis is \$57 billion. The average price of childcare for two young children in the San Diego region consumes 40 percent of the budget for a typical family of four. Creating more opportunities in the childcare sector can help businesses and families be successful and create the best outcomes for our children.

ACTION:

Noting for the record that this item was heard on October 12, 2022; ON MOTION of Supervisor Fletcher, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Received information presented in the San Diego County Childcare Board Conference.
2. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to review the proposed solutions as directed by the Board and, within eight months, report back with recommendations regarding the County’s participation in those proposed solutions.
3. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a childcare blueprint for San Diego County within the next six months.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Fletcher, Desmond
ABSENT: Lawson-Remer

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

