



County of Santa Cruz

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HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

April 2, 2001

AGENDA: April 17, 2001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Assembly Bill 892 to Require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to Develop an Equitable Process for the Awarding of \$50,000 Annual Healthy Start Sustainability Grants to Local Educational Agencies

Dear Board Members:

The Health and well-being of children and families are important factors related to school attendance and learning. Since 1992, over 400 Healthy Start programs in over 1200 schools have been providing support services, including tutoring, counseling, health services, information and referral services, parent education, after school programs, recreation and other locally designed endeavors. There are various Healthy Start programs operational or in planning stages in Santa Cruz County.

Results from two statewide evaluations in 1995 and 1999 demonstrate significant improvements in quality of life, wellbeing and academics among Healthy Start Recipients. Results include decreased use of hospital emergency rooms, reports of depression, suicidal ideation, domestic violence, mobility rates, and a 6% increase in employment rates. Additionally, survey results indicate and 25% increase in reading scores and a 5% increase in mathematics scores of participating students.

Healthy Start programs are locally designed, implemented and administered. Each requires a collaborative of stakeholders to design and monitor program operations. Stakeholders include participating families, education and numerous public and nonprofit service providers, including representatives from County government.

AB 892, authored by Assembly Member Keeley, would provide funds in the form of \$50,000 grants to those Healthy Start Programs of demonstrated effectiveness unable to secure adequate program resources for continuation. The Bill would require that a process be established by the Superintendent of Public Instruction which measures the effectiveness of qualifying Healthy Start program applicants in meeting certain

quantitative and qualitative criteria. Those applicants meeting the established criteria would be awarded grant funds to continue program operations.

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Approve and adopt the attached resolution supporting AB 892 (Keeley).

Sincerely,



Rama Khalsa, Ph.D.
Agency Administrator

RECOMMENDED



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

Attachment: Resolution
AB892

RK/jde

cc. County Administrative Office
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
HSA

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

RESOLUTION NO.

On the motion of Supervisor
Duly seconded of Supervisor
The following resolution is adopted

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF ASSEMBLY BILL 892

WHEREAS, good health and the well-being of children and families is a major contributor to increased school attendance and learning, and family enrichment; and

WHEREAS, existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to award grants to qualifying local educational agencies to provide designated support services to students and families through the Healthy Start program; and

WHEREAS, these designated services include outreach and linkage of families to health and human service programs, including those administered by State and County government; and

WHEREAS, increased access to health and human service programs supports students and families by increasing student and family health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the cost to continue Healthy Start efforts is minimal; and

WHEREAS, AB 892 would provide funding to support effective Healthy Start Programs which are in need of sustainability in order to continue successful program services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors support Assembly Bill 892 to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop an equitable process for the awarding of \$50,000 annual Healthy Start sustainability grants to local educational agencies.

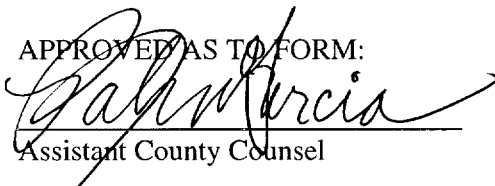
PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this seventeenth day of April, 2001 by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES : SUPERVISORS
ABSTAIN: SUPERVISORS

Chair of the Board

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Assistant County Counsel

Distribution: CAO
 Auditor-Controller

County Counsel
HSA Administration

0306

BILL NUMBER: AB 892 INTRODUCED
BILL TEXT

INTRODUCED BY Assembly Member Keeley

FEBRUARY 23, 2001

An act to add Section 8804.3 to the Education Code, relating to children's health, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 892, as introduced, Keeley. Healthy Start support services.

Existing law, the Healthy Start Support Services for Children Act (the act), requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to award grants to local educational agencies or consortia to fund programs in qualifying schools that provide designated support services to eligible pupils and their families. The act authorizes the issuance of both planning grants and 5-year operational grants to local educational agencies or consortia that provide support services, as defined, to pupils and their families, and authorizes the issuance of county or regional planning and coordinating grants to a specified number of local educational agencies or consortia each year, for the purposes of increasing the local planning and coordinating efforts among school districts, county offices of education, county governments, community organizations, and nonprofit organizations, as specified.

This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop an equitable process for the awarding of \$50,000 annual sustainability grants to local educational agencies or consortia after a program's 3- to 5-year operational grant period. To be eligible to receive a grant, a local educational agency or consortium would be required to submit a plan demonstrating that the program meets certain criteria. The bill would require each program site, on an annual basis, to submit a report to the state and its regional network that updates the status of the local program in fulfilling the criteria and includes input, process, and outcome indicators and quality assessment. The bill would require the State Department of Education to consider these evaluations and annual expenditure reports when determining eligibility for continued funding. The bill would authorize the State Department of Education to retain, for state-level administration of these provisions, 5% of annual appropriations made for purposes of the sustainability grants.

The bill would appropriate \$10,000,000 from the General Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for purposes of awarding sustainability grants.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares as follows:

(1) Since 1992, Healthy Start initiatives have been implementing comprehensive integrated learning support service centers at or near their local schools to serve the pupils and their families. The services provided at the centers include tutoring, counseling, physical and mental health services, parent education, after school programs, youth development, and other locally designed endeavors.

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(2) Results from two statewide evaluations conducted in 1995 and 1999 reveal significant improvements among Healthy Start recipients in quality of life, well-being, and academics with academic results for those most in need increasing appreciably. The results indicate that when the basic needs of a child are met the learning potential of the child is increased and the impact of other academic and after school programs are enhanced.

(3) Examples from a 1995 evaluation of Healthy Start initiatives include a 50 percent reduction in the use of hospital emergency rooms for nonemergency care, a 50 percent reduction in self-reported incidence of depression, suicidal ideation, and domestic violence, a 12 percent reduction in mobility rates, and a 6 percent increase in employment rates among case-managed Healthy Start families.

(4) Examples from a 1999 evaluation of the Healthy Start initiatives parallel the 1995 results and also reveal the following improvements for the lowest quartile of pupil achievement: a 25 percent increase in reading scores and a 50 percent increase in mathematics scores. Healthy Start is "raising the bottom" of pupil achievement in California.

(5) Healthy Start comprehensive, integrated learning support services centers practice local design, local control, and local implementation of their school-community partnership efforts. The grant application rubric requires evidence of parent and community participation in the design, development, implementation, and governance of local Healthy Start initiatives. This requirement has positioned Healthy Start to be catalyst for local change via a genuine community approach.

(6) Healthy Start centers serve children and families who are eligible for Medi-Cal and reduced-price school meals or who are limited in English proficiency. These children and families are often already being served by nonprofit or public health and human service agencies, so Healthy Start collaboratives invite these partner agencies to work with them in one stop fashion at the local comprehensive integrated learning support services center. With grant funding for Healthy Start services coordination, a local initiative is usually able to leverage the majority of support services for their neediest children and families without incurring additional fees.

(7) Healthy Start initiatives also report more effective special education assessments by virtue of having a comprehensive screening mechanism that offers support services that serve as alternatives to the sometimes inappropriate placement of at-risk pupils into special education programs.

(b) The Legislature recognizes the contribution of Healthy Start comprehensive integrated learning support services centers in raising core funding and the ability of those centers to leverage minimal state funding into a significant level of service provided to children, families, and communities. Specifically, the funding requirements of Healthy Start include, but are not limited to, core personnel, facilities, and evaluation of all of which ensure that children and the academic programs that service them have the support needed to achieve their full academic potential.

SEC. 2. Section 8804.3 is added to the Education Code, to read:

8804.3. (a) The superintendent shall develop a process for awarding two-year incentive grants, in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), per year, to local educational agencies or consortia and their collaboratives that meet the criteria set forth in this section to sustain Healthy Start efforts and a comprehensive integrated learning support services center after a local Healthy Start initiative's three- to five-year operational period. To be eligible to receive an incentive grant, a local educational agency or consortium and its collaborative shall submit a plan demonstrating that the Healthy Start effort meets all of the following criteria:

(1) The goals and operations of the Healthy Start initiative and

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efforts of the comprehensive integrated learning support services center are linked to the academic goals and strategies of the school or school district, or both. Ways of demonstrating this linkage include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Coordination of strategic plans between the center staff and the school staff.

(B) Joint staff development between the center staff and the school staff.

(C) Joint evaluation between the center staff and the school staff.

(D) Coordinated emphasis on academic results, strategies, and interventions.

(2) The local educational agency or consortium completes an asset mapping of other learning support programs that serve the same school community and coordinate their work with these programs. These programs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools.

(B) School Safety and Violence Prevention.

(C) Medi-Cal.

(D) Healthy Families.

(E) Parent Involvement.

(F) Adult Education.

(G) Family Resource Centers.

(H) County Children and Families Commissions established pursuant to Section 130140 of the Health and Safety Code.

(I) After School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods Partnerships Programs.

(J) 21st Century Learning Centers.

(K) Improving America Schools Act Programs.

(L) AmeriCorps.

(M) The list of support services set forth in subdivision (g) of Section 8804.

(3) The local educational agency or consortium and collaborative has a clear plan of desired results and performance measures of success, including, but not limited to, pupil behavior, school attendance, academic achievement, increasing SAT 9 and API scores, family participation, and community involvement. These plans shall be used for continued improvement of the center services, linked to the school or school district strategic plan, and linked to an evaluation.

(4) The local educational agency or consortium demonstrates a history of a local Healthy Start collaborative providing leadership in governance, funding, and provision of services for the Healthy Start Initiative. This collaborative must include pupils, families, community agencies, and school/district administration/staff, and other stakeholders. The collaborative must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to reinvesting local educational agency Medi-Cal billing funds into sustaining and expanding the Healthy Start operational grant efforts and center services other school-linked service initiatives.

(5) The local educational agency or consortium and collaborative provide a credible plan for staffing, including schoolsite coordination, pupil and family outreach, case management, and for adequate, accessible facilities on or near school campuses.

(b) If the original configuration of schools for the initiative is not functioning as described in the application that was submitted and accepted for initial funding, a local educational agency or consortium and the collaborative may petition the lead agency for an exception to the original configuration of schools in their application for an incentive grant pursuant to this section.

(c) (1) Each recipient of a grant pursuant to this section shall, on an annual basis, submit an evaluation report to the state and its regional network that updates the status of the Healthy Start collaborative efforts and center in fulfilling the criteria set forth

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in subdivision (a).

(2) An annual evaluation report shall include input, process, and outcome indicators and quality assessment, as reasonably determined by the superintendent.

(3) The lead agency shall consider these evaluations and annual expenditure reports when determining eligibility for renewed funding four years from the end of the original two-year incentive grant funding.

(d) The superintendent shall award grants pursuant to this section to local educational agencies or consortia and their collaborative partners in northern, central, and southern California, in urban, suburban and rural areas, and in each cohort eligible for an incentive grant. To the extent possible, grants shall be awarded for programs that are representative of the ethnic and linguistic diversity of schoolage children in the state. Further, to the extent possible, grants shall be awarded to schools serving elementary school pupils, schools serving junior high school pupils, and schools serving high school pupils proportionately to the percentage of schools in the state that serve pupils of each category.

(e) Local education agencies or consortia and their collaboratives that have sustained Healthy Start efforts for at least two years beyond the initial Healthy Start operational grant three- to five-year period and meet the eligibility criteria set forth in subdivision (a) will be given priority for funding.

(f) Recipients of grants pursuant to this section may be eligible to receive renewal two-year incentive grants of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year after four years from the end of the original two-year incentive grant period. Eligibility for receiving a renewal incentive grant shall be based on a plan that demonstrates how the criteria in subdivision (a) is being met and will continue to be met and the annual evaluation and expenditure reports.

(g) Five percent of annual appropriations made for purposes of this section may be retained by the lead agency for state-level administration of this section.

SEC. 3. The sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 2001-02 fiscal year for purposes of Section 8804.3 of the Education Code.