



Agenda Date: 5/3/2005
Agenda Placement: 10A

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Britt Ferguson for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Andrew Carey, Management Analyst, 253-4477
SUBJECT: Federal funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of and authorization for the Chair and certain County officers to sign a letter supporting continued federal funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program. (Unanimous vote required)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

President Bush has proposed eliminating the federal funding component for the state grant portion of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program. Currently, this is the only source of federal funding received by Napa County schools for school-based drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs, including individual and group counseling services. This funding assists the schools in promoting a climate of prevention with regard to alcohol, drugs, tobacco and violence issues.

Continued funding for this program is urged by the Napa County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. The Board of Supervisors' legislative subcommittee recommends approval of and authorization for the Chair and certain County officers to sign a letter urging continued federal funding of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

President Bush has proposed eliminating the federal funding component for the state grant portion of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program. Currently, this is the only source of federal funding received by Napa County schools for school-based drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs, including individual and group counseling services. This funding assists the schools in promoting a climate of prevention with regard to alcohol, drugs, tobacco and violence issues.

In Napa County, these funds serve 19,000 students. The funds allow the schools to prepare parent resources, such as Building and Promoting Asset Development for Youth, a publication that is distributed through the local newspaper and school offices. The Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program also provides parents information about alcohol, drug and tobacco use, suggests family oriented activities, and lists agencies parents can contact when they need assistance.

Without this funding, the schools would lose their prevention coordinator, who provides materials and professional development to teachers, as well as the counselors who work directly with students having drug and alcohol issues. Napa County continues to work to reduce teen alcohol and drug use, which pose serious problems for the community. Schools play a critical role in getting the anti-drug message to kids and require continued federal funding in order to provide this important drug and alcohol abuse prevention program.

Board approval and authorization is requested for the Chair and the following County officers to sign a letter of support for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program:

- | Mark Luce, Member Napa County Board of Supervisors
- | Nancy Watt, County Executive Officer
- | Mary Butler, Chief Probation Officer
- | Randy Snowden, Director of Health and Human Services
- | Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney
- | Gary Simpson, Sheriff
- | Terry Davis, Public Defender

On April 4, 2005, the Board of Supervisor's legislative subcommittee took action to submit this issue to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation for approval of and authorization for the Chair and the above mentioned County officers to sign a letter to President Bush urging continued federal funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities program.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Letter of support

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Britt Ferguson