



June 15, 2023

INFORMATION ACTION

SUBJECT: TWENTY-FIVE YEAR LOOKBACK

Strategic Plan Priority Area: Child Health

Goal: All children thrive by achieving optimal health prenatal through age 5.

Strategic Plan Priority Area: Child Development

Goal: All children birth through age 5 have high-quality, nurturing environments that ensure their learning readiness.

Strategic Plan Priority Area: Family Functioning

Goal: All families have the knowledge, skills, and resources to support their children's optimal development.

RECOMMENDATION

First 5 California (F5CA) staff recommend the Commission approve up to \$2 million from the Research and Development account to fund the Twenty-Five Year Lookback project.

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Commissioners have expressed interest in the overall impact of F5 since the passage of Proposition 10, otherwise known as the California Children and Families Act of 1998 (the "Act"). Staff propose hiring an expert team to determine:

- What has been the effect of the Act in terms of funding services to children 0–5 and their families?
- Who has received services (how many and of what kind) pursuant to the Act?
- Where has First 5 experienced successes and how?

- Where has First 5 not yet been able to make an impact and why?
- What should First 5 consider investing in for the short and long term?
- How should First 5 monitor and evaluate the impact of its investments moving forward?

First 5 would use multiple methods to evaluate the impact at the State, regional, and county levels, using a combination of First 5, State, and publicly available data. First 5 would engage with stakeholders at multiple levels, including parents and providers, at all steps of the analysis including planning. Proposed deliverables may include a historical analysis, a document review of past First 5 evaluations and reports, policy and program analyses, and options for ongoing impact monitoring and evaluation. After review by First 5 and relevant stakeholders, findings would be disseminated via public and scholarly outlets.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

At the April 2023 Commission meeting, Commissioners heard an [informational presentation on this proposal](#). Discussion included the necessity of collaboration with stakeholders at various levels in the design, implementation, and analysis of the evaluation, and the value of including all levels of investment (local, Association, and State) in the evaluation design. Discussion also included the value of learning what impact Prop 10 has had to date, what successes can be replicated, and whether impact has decreased as funding has decreased. In addition, discussion included whether the Program and Evaluation Advisory Committee (PEAC) should have another opportunity to weigh in on this proposal; PEAC Chair Majors suggested sending this item to the full Commission as an action item for the June 2023 Commission meeting.

FISCAL DETAIL

If approved, the Commission would invest up to \$2 million from the Research and Development fund account.

ATTACHMENTS

None.