

# ATTACHMENT

For Item

#20

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**From:** [henkinp@earthlink.net](mailto:henkinp@earthlink.net)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
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## 20. CHILD WELFARE STUDY

Hi Supervisors,

I applaud making all CWS policies publicly available, but once again, many of the recommendations are wrongheaded and divisive:

Public recognition is for those "whose work personifies" certain values. Sounds like anyone who dissents is liable not to be recognized, kind of like a dictatorship?

I understand that the lack of training is a big thing, but it should not simply be once a year (especially if the trainee can simply take the day off) or on a schedule, but as-needed. Not sure what this BS about Enhancing "education and training to create better experiences of CWS improving the lives of children and families that can influence the public's consciousness." Weren't we already doing this? How much will this line item cost?

You want to change the chair of the Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council (CAPCC) from CWS management to a community representative but still just a manager. You want someone who knows the law and the enforcers, and liking kids wouldn't hurt although not mentioned. Then you want to review the Ombudsman office (handles CWS complaints) to determine if it should be part of CWS. Of COURSE he needs to be in CWS. And you want to authorize the new CAPCC standing subcommittee permission to investigate and report to the CAPCC chair on just about any issue pertaining to "the implementation of recommendations in this report." 88 recommendations - does that mean anyone can start one of 88 investigations?

The report says "authority to place a child should rest with a worker

focused on the wishes and needs of the child(ren) and family." Children of divorced parents should not go between parents - they need to be in one place. It says "Attempt to keep homes that can accept multiple children free until they can be filled by sibling sets, rather than individual children.' - This should be for those siblings who need to be placed together (older siblings might want their independence.)

The report says "attach the most recent Foster Family Agency report to the court report if a child is placed in a home within a FFA." Why stop at the most recent? It adds "Provide access to licensed therapists... who can provide ongoing support..." Don't you need to identify them first? Finally, it says "Investigate the use of a psychological evaluation tool to improve the speed and quality of the written family evaluation." I do not favor prioritizing speed over quality, as is implied here.

Regards,

Paul Henkin

henkinp@earthlink.net