Meeting Date: September 24, 2024 Agenda Item No. 03

Distribution Date: September 19, 2024

Batch No. 01

From: henkinp@earthlink.net

To: Desmond, Jim; Anderson, Joel; MontgomerySteppe, Monica; Vargas, Nora (BOS); Lawson-Remer, Terra

Cc: FGG, Public Comment

Subject: [External] ERINATAL EQUITY INITIATIVE FUNDING FROM CALIFORNIA DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTHY (Please

include with docs. for agenda item 3)

Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024 12:26:29 PM

Hi Supervisors,

So, the County wants to accept a \$484K grant for Black infants. Two issues: In today's medical world, that is decent money for 4 or 5K checkups, but not that much more if there are complications, surgery, or the like.

Second, why just Blacks? All babies are special – Latino, Native American, Asian, on and on. They all have special needs. Why restrict the loan to 4% of the County population?

And the 313 Black women this program is mentioned as helping is a drop in the bucket. Moreover, thing like bias training mentioned in the Background section is something the hospital or medical school should provide from the beginning of a doctor's service.

I suggest standing up to the powers that be and saying 'no, this is peanuts. We can do this ourselves from the huge budget we passed and serve the entire community.'

Regards,

Paul Henkin