

Initiative Measure to be Submitted Directly to the Voters

The County Counsel for the County of Alameda has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

TITLE: AN INITIATIVE MEASURE TO ADD CHAPTER 2.08, ARTICLE VI TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY ORDINANCE CODE TO ENACT A ONE HALF OF ONE PERCENT TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX TO PROVIDE FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND CHILD CARE

SUMMARY: The purpose of this proposed measure is to add Chapter 2.08, Article VI to the Alameda County Ordinance Code. The ordinance would impose a transactions and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent on the sale and use of tangible personal property within the County of Alameda ("County"), including the incorporated and unincorporated areas, and remain in effect until the end of Fiscal Year 2040-2041. The proceeds would be dedicated to care, preschool, and early education for children, and health care for children and young adults.

The tax proceeds would be deposited in the Children's Health and Child Care for Alameda County Fund ("Fund") and distributed between two subaccounts as follows:

1. 20% to the Pediatric Health Care ("PHC") Account; and
2. 80% to the Child Care, Preschool, and Early Education ("CPE") Account.

The ordinance requires an annual independent financial audit of the revenues and expenditures of the Fund.

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") shall expend monies from the PHC Account for the purposes of (among others): maintaining, upgrading, and expanding a Level 1 pediatric trauma center; assuring the financial viability of the local children's health care safety net; and implementing programs to enable pediatric and young adult patients and their families to access pediatric health care services. The Board shall establish a citizen oversight committee to review and report on this account's expenditures annually.

The Board shall appropriate the CPE Account funds for the purposes of (among others): increasing the number of low- and middle-income children from birth to age twelve with access to CPE services with priority for certain groups of children; improving compensation and benefits of family child care providers and early educator employees who provide services under the ordinance; and paying for expenditures for the administration of the CPE Account. With the exception of expanding transitional kindergarten eligibility to additional four year old children, the CPE Account funds may not be used for kindergarten through grade 12 school day services.

The ordinance provides for a Community Advisory Council, appointed in part by the Board and the Alameda Early Care and Educational Planning Council. The ordinance adopts First 5 Alameda County as the Administering Agency, reserving the right to the Board to select a different entity to act in that capacity. The Administering Agency shall develop on a five-year cycle the CPE Program Plan and Budget