

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

November 27, 2012

**Amendment to Item 15**

It is sickening to me that minors in this country – some as young as 10 years old - are forcibly coerced and manipulated into selling their bodies for the benefit of their pimps. Untold numbers of these children fall victim to predatory adults who sexually exploit them for commercial gain, and who very often abuse these minors in unspeakably brutal ways. Some of these children are arrested for prostitution and go through the juvenile justice system. Fortunately, due to the hard work of the Probation Department, we have been able to provide these girls with rehabilitation and healing that is specific to their needs. The passage of the CASE Act will also be a great benefit to those dedicated to eradicating this horrific issue.

If the County is to add to an already extensive list of task forces on human trafficking, we need to look at the issue comprehensively. 80% of the kids arrested for prostitution are in foster care. We cannot think of this in terms of kids in foster care as opposed to kids who are arrested, because they are one in the same. There's no difference!

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

Probation has been working on this for 2 years. They have developed expertise and they have trained County staff – including sizable numbers of DCFS staff – as to how to work with this fragile population of young people. They would be ideally positioned to help direct the work of this group as co-chair w DCFS.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the motion be amended to add the Chief Probation Officer as a co-chair of the Child Sex Trafficking task force.

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