



Solano County

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Legislation Text

File #: 18-591, Version: 1

Adopt and present a resolution recognizing September 2018 as National Literacy Month in Solano County (Supervisor Brown)

Published Notice Required? Yes ☐ No ☒
Public Hearing Required? Yes ☐ No ☒

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Library Services (Library) recommends the Board of Supervisors adopt and present a resolution recognizing September 2018 as National Literacy Month in Solano County.

SUMMARY:

Approximately 36 million adults in the United States have low literacy skills. Barbara Bush, former First Lady and a major supporter of literacy in the United States, once stated that if more people could read or write "we could be much closer to solving so many other problems that our country faces." September continues to be recognized by Literacy programs nationwide as National Literacy Month.

By 2020, two out of three jobs in America will require a college degree, even though nearly half of all adults in the United States have only a high school degree-or less. Closing this skills gap benefits the entire community. Research shows that increased literacy levels could save the United States \$230 billion in health care costs, and add \$225 billion to our economy in increased tax revenue and productivity. Investment and support in literacy programs keep paying for future generations as evidence shows a mom's reading ability is the single best predictor of her kids' success in school-more than race, ethnicity, and family income.

National Literacy Month provides an opportunity for adults who need help building their skills to learn about the programs available in Solano County to help them get the literacy tools they need. It also raises awareness of ways the community can support literacy activities including volunteering as a tutor, providing support for books and reading materials and sharing the message with friends, families and co-workers that it is never too late to learn how to read or write.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The costs associated with preparing the agenda item is nominal and absorbed by the department's FY2018/19 Adopted Budget. The costs associated with preparation and purchase of the resolution materials are included in the Board's FY2017/18 Adopted Budget.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board may choose not to adopt this resolution. This is not recommended because acknowledgment of September as National Literacy Month provides an opportunity to inform and educate the community about literacy services in Solano County.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

There is no other agency involvement.

CAO RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION