


**DATE:** September 23, 2021

**TO:** First 5 Orange County, Children and Families Commission

**FROM:** Kimberly Goll, President/CEO 

**ACTION:** Adopt Resolution finding that, due to the proclaimed state of emergency arising from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees, and the emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

---

**SUMMARY:**

First 5 Orange County holds regular public meetings to act on measures related to its programs, projects, and services. In order to conduct teleconferencing meetings in compliance with recent amendments to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act), the Board of Commissioners must adopt a resolution finding that, due to the proclaimed state of emergency arising from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees and the emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

**DISCUSSION:**

Since March of 2020, the First 5 Orange County Board of Commissioners have been meeting virtually in accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders Nos. N-25-20 and N-29-20, which relaxed certain teleconferencing requirements under the Brown Act. The Executive Orders recently expired, and AB 361 (Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021) was approved by the Legislature and signed by Governor Newsom on September 16, 2021. This legislation amends the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to meet by teleconference during a proclaimed state of emergency.

Under AB 361, if the Board of Commissioners wishes to conduct meetings virtually during the proclaimed state of emergency due to COVID-19, it must determine by resolution that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. To allow the Board of Commissioners and its Technical Advisory Committee to continue meeting virtually during the proclaimed state of emergency, every 30 days the Board must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and find that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

By adopting the Resolution (Attachment 1), the Board of Commissioners and its Technical Advisory Committee will be permitted to meet virtually for 30 days in accordance with the Brown Act teleconferencing requirements.

**STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:**

The recommended actions have been reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan and are consistent with all goal areas. There is no specific funding action proposed for this item.

**PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:** None

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Adopt Resolution finding that, due to the proclaimed state of emergency arising from COVID-19, meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees, and the emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution

**CONTACT:** Kimberly Goll