




R-14

Date: October 12, 2004
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Councilwoman Laura Richardson, Sixth District 
Subject: **ADOPTING A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 61 – CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BOND ACT**

Background

Children's Hospitals provide specialized care to treat the most serious and life-threatening diseases. In California, children's hospitals treat more than a million children's injuries and illnesses each year in the hospital and through outpatient settings, regardless of their families' ability to pay. They also provide:

- 92% of all surgery for children requiring organ transplants
- 87% of the inpatient care for children requiring heart surgery
- 64% of the inpatient care of children with cancer

Proposition 61- The Children's Hospital Bond Act would authorize \$750 million dollars to improve and expand California's children's hospitals and purchase new equipment for the treatment of the state's seriously injured and ill children. Proposition 61 will not raise taxes. The \$750 million will be raised through obligation bonds to be repaid from the state's General Fund.

If Proposition 61 is passed, Long Beach Miller Children's Hospital will receive \$74 million dollars, slightly less than ten percent of the total bond. This will go a long way in helping to finance the proposed \$120 million facilities which include the construction of a two-building pavilion with inpatient and outpatient services, as well as renovating existing space to create a comprehensive integrated facility that meets current earthquake standards.

While other hospitals in the area are reducing their pediatric services, Miller Children's Hospital has not ignored the needs of the community by preparing for the delivery of much needed services in our city and the entire region from Los Angeles to Orange County.

Suggested Action

Therefore, I respectfully request the City Attorney to draft a Resolution in support of California Proposition 61 – Children's Hospital Bond Act for this council's consideration.

cc: City Manager
City Attorney
City Clerk
Miller Children's Hospital
Long Beach Memorial Hospital
Press Telegram