



**RESOLUTION NO. 16-01**

**October 17, 2016**

**A RESOLUTION OF FIRST 5 MENDOCINO'S  
STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE INTEREST OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN  
CANNABIS RELATED POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, FIRST 5 Mendocino was formed by the voters who enacted the California Children and Families First Act ("Act") in 1998 to support health, welfare and early education programs for children prenatal to five years of age and their families through taxation of tobacco products; and

**WHEREAS**, FIRST 5 Mendocino's mission is to use its resources to establish, fund, coordinate, evaluate and advocate for programs that improve parenting and decrease substance abuse among parents and other care givers of young children in Mendocino County; and

**WHEREAS**, research over the past three decades shows children's brains develop most dramatically during their first five years of life than during any other stage; and

**WHEREAS**, FIRST 5 Mendocino holds that all Mendocino County children be happy, healthy and ready for kindergarten so that in the long-term, they become capable, contributing members of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, California voters approved medical cannabis in 1996 with the passage of Proposition 215 and the state and local governments have enacted laws to regulate and tax medical cannabis; and

**WHEREAS**, none of the local tax revenue is currently directed to children's services such as health, mental health, early education, child abuse prevention and other early intervention services; and

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments are preparing for legalization, regulation and taxation of recreational cannabis and there is an urgent need to protect the health and safety interest of young children as these policies are developed; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that FIRST 5 Mendocino strongly supports the interest of young children in Mendocino County and supports policies that protect young children from exposure to cannabis cultivation, cannabis marketing, proximity to smokers, proximity to cannabis businesses, child safety packaging, sufficient warnings for pregnant women, and supports the allocation of state and local tax revenue for investment in children's programs.

FIRST 5 Mendocino will not spend taxpayer funds to influence voters.

The foregoing was passed and adopted by the following vote of the FIRST 5 Mendocino Commission on October 17, 2016 to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Tichinin", written over a horizontal line.

Paul Tichinin, Chair

FIRST 5 Mendocino Commission