



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

700 H STREET, SUITE 2450, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

PHIL SERNA
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT
Telephone (916) 874-5485
FAX (916) 874-7593
E-Mail supervisorserna@saccounty.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 23, 2019

CONTACT: Lisa Nava, Chief of Staff
NavaL@saccounty.net
916.874.5485

Board of Supervisors green lights initial step for prospective Sacramento County Women's Commission

Supervisor Phil Serna's proposal to form a blue ribbon commission receives unanimous support

Sacramento, CA – At its regularly scheduled public meeting the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved a Blue Ribbon Commission to explore the prospect of a permanent Sacramento County Women's Commission. The Board's unanimous vote followed supportive public testimony including that from a representative of Sacramento Vice-Mayor Eric Guerra, as well as from SMUD Board Member Gregg Fishman.

Citing growing community interest in a women's commission, a local group of women's advocates came to the Board of Supervisors requesting the process to establish such a body commence in earnest first as a blue ribbon commission. Sixteen California counties and nine cities currently have women's commissions that serve in advisory roles to local policy makers and the public at large. While the subject matter before these commissions can vary, all are generally dedicated to informing the public decision-making process on issues, opportunities, and challenges unique to women and girls.

During the next nine to 12 months, the "Blue Ribbon Commission on the Establishment of a Sacramento County Women's Commission" will explore the role, structure, responsibilities and value of such a prospective advisory body. The Commission will also research the function and operation of existing women's commissions from across the state.

"The board's unanimous action today demonstrates the seriousness with which we acknowledge the pressing need for gender equality in all aspects of governance, public policy and community," said First District County Supervisor Phil Serna. "Like other women's commissions from across California, ours should be the product of thoughtful consideration and that's why we're taking the time to work with local advocates to form an effective and deliberate advisory body."

Supervisor Phil Serna has committed limited district funds to help the Blue Ribbon Commission with incidental costs associated with fulfilling its charge.

###