

**TO: Workforce Investment Board**

**DATE: 01/10/08**

**FROM: WIB Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of BEAM Initiative**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): For the Workforce Investment Board to adopt a resolution in support of the Business-Education Alliance of Merced County (BEAM) and request the Board of Supervisors to consider adopting a resolution in support of (BEAM).**

**DISCUSSION: BEAM is a partnership of committed business, education, government, and community leaders who support education, workforce development, and economic growth in Merced County. The Alliance mission is to support each child's journey – from preschool to productivity – building an educated community, a qualified workforce and a strong local economy.**

**BEAM has the following goals:**

- **Beginning with preschool, ensure all children in Merced County have access to quality education that leads to lifelong employment skills**
- **Narrow the achievement gap early on by making effective early childhood education a priority, resulting in increased high school, vocational and college graduation rates**
- **Support education strategies, starting with preschool, that will decrease incarceration rates, reduce dependence on social welfare, and increase long-term economic self-sufficiency**
- **Increase family and community involvement in education by developing a communication network that will promote the vision, mission and goal of BEAM**

**ED Rocha (President of County Bank) is the business co-chair, and Dr. Steve Kang (Chancellor of U. C. Merced) is the education co-chair.**

**ATTACHMENT(S):  
Draft Resolution**

**Draft Resolution Number 2008-01**  
**Merced County Workforce Investment Board**  
**January 10, 2008 Meeting**

Resolution on declaring the Workforce Investment Board's support of the Business-Education Alliance of Merced County (BEAM)

**WHEREAS**, the Merced County Workforce Investment Board recognizes that quality preschool programs boost achievement in school and in later life and leads to long term outcomes including higher academic grades, graduation rates and income.

**WHEREAS**, this Business-Education Alliance of Merced County (BEAM) is a partnership of committed business, education, government, and community leaders who support education, workforce development and economic growth in Merced County.

**WHEREAS**, supporting quality preschool has been proven to prevent crime and be one of the best tools to ensure a strong, competitive workforce that will yield - easier recruitment and retention, improved job performance, lower employee turnover, and reduce employee absenteeism for businesses.

**WHEREAS**, supporting quality preschool programs are found to be among strategies proven to positively curb high school dropout rates.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Workforce Investment Board of Merced County on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2008, hereby adopt and support the Business-Education Alliance of Merced County (BEAM) initiative to promote quality preschool access to Merced County residents.

**CERTIFICATION**, I, Robert Harmon, Chair of the Merced County Workforce Investment Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2008, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of \_\_\_\_members, and opposed by \_\_\_\_ members, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Signed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2008.

---

Robert Harmon, Chair  
Merced County Workforce Investment Board