Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to approve this Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC039 Public Health to Recognize \$120,000 from the NC DHHS Division of Child and Family Wellbeing, Whole Child Health Section, School, Adolescent and Child Health Unit to Maintain a Strong and Inclusive School Health Team

Background/Justification

On March 11, 2021, the President signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 (P.L. 117-2). ARPA provides additional relief to address the continued impact of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic on the economy; public health; state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) governments; individuals; and businesses. Under ARPA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) activated CDC-RFA-TP18-1802 Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response1 to support public health response to COVID-19. Funds from this act were designated to recruit, hire, establish, expand, train, and sustain a public health workforce, which includes school nurses and other school health professionals.

School health is a recognized component of the public health effort for the school aged population and local community. Public health and education are necessary partners in the operation of safe and healthy schools. Efforts should be taken to foster, grow and maintain the tie between public health and education in support of both COVID-19 response programs and other activities that improve population and individual health for students and school staff. In support of sustainable school health/public health programs, 25% of the state funds awarded for public health workforce development are designated to support school-based health program workforce development.

Policy Impact

Recognition of these funds are in line with current Board policy and do not require an exception.

Procurement Background

Not Applicable

Fiscal Impact

Recognizing these revenues for the current fiscal year will allow for additional funding needed to support the school workforce as activities continue related to COVID-19 response, recovery, and resiliency.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends the Board approve this Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 25BCC039 Public Health to Recognize \$120,000 from the NC DHHS Division of Child and Family Wellbeing, Whole Child Health Section, School, Adolescent and Child Health Unit to Maintain a Strong and Inclusive School Health Team

