CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM

Issue: Proclamation - March for Babies Month

Petitioner: Donald G. Burnette, County Manager

Recommendation:

That the Board of County Commissioners present a proclamation to March of Dimes; and proclaim the month of April 2015 as “March for Babies Month” in Clark County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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BACKGROUND:

Every year, about 450,000 babies are born too soon in the United States. After rising by 36 percent over 25 years (1981-2006), our country’s preterm birth rate has declined by 11 percent over the last 7 years. However, the U.S. preterm birth rate remains too high at 11.4 percent, which is higher than that of most developed nations.

Premature birth costs society more than $26 billion a year and takes a high toll on families. Babies born just a few weeks early are at risk of severe health problems and lifelong disabilities. Premature birth is the number one killer of newborns.

In 2003, the March of Dimes launched the Prematurity Campaign to address the crisis and help families have full-term, healthy babies. Worldwide, 15 million babies are born prematurely each year. In 2008, March of Dimes expanded their campaign globally.

The March for Babies Campaign will help save babies’ lives, fund research to find the causes of premature birth and ways to prevent it, support families with a premature baby in newborn intensive care, and help women have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.

Commissioner Scow would like to present a proclamation to proclaim the month of April 2014 as “March for Babies Month,” and urge all people to be aware of the dangers of premature birth and support the efforts of the March of Dimes to help give every baby a healthy start, by participating in March for Babies to walk in support of our babies.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD G. BURNETTE, County Manager

Cleared for Agenda

4/7/2015

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