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California State Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

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FOR USE THROUGH:

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California Senators Bring Healthcare Workforce Shortage Discussion to the Central Valley

*The Second Hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Social Determinants of
Children's Well-Being to Take Place in Fresno*

What: The bipartisan Senate Select Committee on Social Determinants of Children's Well-Being will host its second of six public hearings on the social determinants of children's health to study and make recommendations on the conditions that negatively impact California children into adulthood.

This hearing will focus on the Central Valley's healthcare workforce shortage and issues including immigration, environment, land use, transportation, civic engagement and more. Community members are encouraged to attend and provide public comment.

Who: Speakers at the event include:

- Senator Holly J. Mitchell, Senate District 30
- Senator Melissa Hurtado, Senate District 14
- Dr. Mark Ghaly, Health and Human Services Agency Secretary
- Janet Coffman, Ph.D, MA, MPP, Faculty at Healthforce Center at UCSF
- Katharine Flores, M.D. Director, UCSF Fresno Latino Center for Medical Education and Research
- Dr. Karla Au Yeung, Valley Children's Pediatric Residency Program, Valley Children's Healthcare
- Sandra Celedon, Chief Executive Officer, Fresno Building Healthy Communities
- Pao Yang, Chief Executive officer, The Fresno Center
- Leslie Martinez, Policy Advocate, Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability

When: Monday, July 15 - 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
10:00 a.m. – *Hearing*
12:30 p.m. – *Senators Mitchell and Hurtado, and panelists are available for interviews upon request*

- **MORE** -

Where: Fresno City Hall - 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

Why: The Select Committee is hosting hearings across California, where nearly a quarter of young children live in poverty – a fact that has profound short-term and long-term educational, health, and economic repercussions. This hearing will take place in Fresno because, for far too long, children in the San Joaquin Valley have faced social conditions and systems that inhibited their capacity and well-being. One in four children in the Valley face food insecurity; the environmental challenges of contaminated air, pesticide use, and hazardous waste impact health outcomes; children have little access to green and safe space to play; 82 percent of low-income renters pay more than 30 percent of their income in rent. In addition, there are only 157 medical doctors for 100,000 residents in the Valley as compared to 411 per 100,000 in a location like San Francisco. The Select Committee seeks solutions to create a healthier Valley and a more equitable California for all children.

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