

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors · (209) 966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-143

MEETING: April 5, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: John Carrier, District V Supervisor

RE: Letter Supporting Re-Authorization of Secure Rural Schools Funding

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve a Letter Supporting the Re-Authorization of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act Funding; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter. This Act, better known as SRS, provides critical funding to our local schools and for maintenance of county roads, as well as provides funding for crucial fire prevention activities (Fire Safe Council and the South West Interface Project Coordinator). On April 6, 2015, SRS was re-authorized retroactively for Federal Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015. The Mariposa County Road Fund and the Mariposa County School District will each receive approximately \$140,000 this fiscal year and the Forest Reserve fund will receive approximately \$40,000 for use on fire prevention activities.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has supported Federal legislation that will ultimately benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the letter. Individual Board members may write their own letters of support, which may not carry the same weight as a letter endorsed by the entire Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

Reauthorization of SRS Support Letter 2016 (DOC)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended


Mary Hodson, CAO 3/31/2016

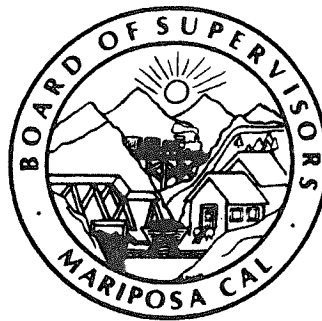
RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors



MARY HODSON
County Administrative Officer

RENE LAROCHE
Clerk of the Board

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District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE
District 2 MERLIN JONES
District 3 MARSHALL LONG
District 4 KEVIN CANN
District 5 April 5, 2016. JOHN CARRIER

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: S-230
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: S-221
Washington DC 20510

Re: SUPPORT SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS (SRS)

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Reid:

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors supports the re-authorization of the Secure Rural Schools Community Self-Determination Act (SRS). The SRS provides critical funding to our rural county that helps to support our local school district, our county road infrastructure, and fire prevention programs.

The SRS provides assistance to rural counties and school districts affected by the decline in revenue from timber harvests on federal lands. Historically, rural communities and schools have relied on a share of receipts from time harvests to supplement local funding for education services and roads. Changes in national policies substantially diminished the revenue-generating activity permitted in federal forests, and the resulting steep decline in timber sales has harmed the financial status of rural counties and school districts. In response to this decline in revenue, SRS was enacted in 2000.

Since Mariposa County began receiving this funding in September 2001, both the County Road Fund and our local school district have each received a little over \$2.7 million, which was desperately needed to maintain county roads and continue with our outstanding educational system. Additionally, local fire prevention programs have been initiated utilizing the specific funding from this source which has been extremely important with California's Tree Mortality Disaster/Emergency.

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors supports the re-authorization of SRS and we thank you for time and consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

JOHN CARRIER
Chairman

cc: Senator Crapo
Senator Tester
Senator Feinstein
Senator Boxer
Congressman McClintock

National Association of Counties
California State Association of Counties
Rural County Representatives of California