



# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors · (209) 966-3222



## **RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2018-204**

MEETING: May 8, 2018  
TO: The Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor  
RE: Letter of Support for AB 2727

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### **RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

Approve a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 2727 which provides a personal income tax credit for costs incurred for training and equipment by qualified firefighters; and authorize the Board of Supervisors chair to sign the letter.

Please see the attached letter and bill language for additional information.

### **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

The Board has routinely approved letters of support for issues that they believe will benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

### **ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

If the Board does not approve the letter, individual Board members may write their own letters of support which may not carry the same weight as a letter from the entire Board.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**AB 2727 - Proposed Letter of Support (DOCX)**  
**AB 2727 proposed legislation (PDF)**

**RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER:** Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

**SECONDER:** Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor

**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors



District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE  
District 2 ..... MERLIN JONES  
District 3 ..... MARSHALL LONG  
District 4 ..... KEVIN CANN  
District 5 ..... MILES MENETREY

DALLIN KIMBLE  
County Administrative Officer

RENE LAROCHE  
Clerk of the Board

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May 8, 2018

The Honorable Heath Flora  
Member, California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3098  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 2727 – SUPPORT  
As Amended April 10, 2018**

Dear Assemblymember Flora:

The Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County offers its support for Assembly Bill 2727, which provides a personal income tax credit for costs incurred for training and equipment by qualified firefighters. Within Mariposa County, fire protection is provided by CAL FIRE and the County's fourteen fire companies which are staffed by volunteer firefighters.

Rural fire protection relies heavily upon the volunteer services of community members to provide a critical public service of responding to structure fires and emergency response calls. In addition, these firefighters are often on the first line of defense, along with CAL FIRE, on the devastating wildland fires in their own communities. In some parts of rural California, volunteer firefighters are the only local fire department.

Over the years, the training requirements and equipment for volunteer (and paid personnel) have increased in time and expense. While the fire districts generally provide the minimum training and safety equipment, often these individuals are not reimbursed for travel to the required training and incur expenses on additional training or higher quality safety equipment. It has become increasingly difficult for the rural fire districts to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters.

AB 2727 would provide a personal income tax credit up to 80 percent of the amount incurred by volunteer firefighters and 35 percent to paid professional firefighters, not to exceed \$1,500 a year. This is a small recognition that these individuals who put their lives on the line to protect the lives and properties of others within their community deserve to have some of their self-paid costs mitigated with a tax credit.

For these reasons, Mariposa County supports AB 2727. If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us a (209) 966-3222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rosemarie Smallcombe".

Rosemarie Smallcombe, Chair  
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

cc: Member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Rural County Representatives of California