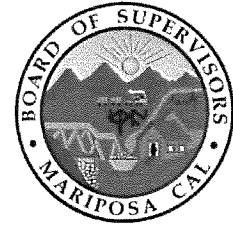




MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration • 966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-481

MEETING: August 20, 2019
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer
RE: Letter of Support for HR 3043

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Ratify a Letter of Support for House Resolution 3043, Which Would Make the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program Permanent.

Federal lands make up a substantial portion of Mariposa County. These lands are not subject to local taxes, such as property taxes, that support mandated education, emergency services, infrastructure, law enforcement and health care services. The PILT program offers a partial offset of those revenues in support of the vital services mentioned. Though currently subject to the annual appropriations process, House Resolution 3043 would make the program permanent.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has routinely ratify 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If the Board does not ratify the letter, it will be rescinded. Individual Board members may write their own letters of support at that time, which may not carry the same weight as a letter from the entire Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

PILT Letter of Support (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

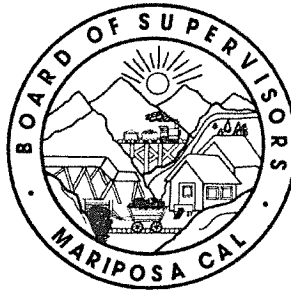
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

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

RENÉ LAROCHE
Clerk of the Board

P. O. Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338
(209) 966-3222
(800) 736-1252
Fax (209) 966-5147
www.mariposacounty.org/board

August 9, 2019

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for the "Permanently Authorizing PILT Act" (H.R. 3043)

Dear Senator Feinstein,

On behalf of Mariposa County, which depends heavily on the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program, we write in support of H.R. 3043, which would permanently authorize the PILT program.

The federal government owns approximately half of the land in Mariposa County. While the County supports sustainable land conservation and uses for the benefit of our fellow Americans, federal land is not taxed and federal land ownership dramatically diminishes the ability for local governments to develop the housing and commercial activities necessary to maintain strong property values. Mariposa County collects less than half of the possible property tax revenue to support vital (and often mandated) education, emergency services, transportation, infrastructure, law enforcement and health care services because of the significant federal land in our county.

We fully support the PILT and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs, which partially offset losses in tax revenues for local governments and school districts in areas with substantial federal acreage. We believe the PILT program should be extended indefinitely and SRS should be fully funded every year. We're excited that your proposal would permanently authorize PILT, which has helped provide stability for more than 1,850 counties in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Without predictable mandatory funding, PILT will remain a discretionary program subject to the annual appropriations process. We are hopeful that Congress will enact long-term predictable full funding for PILT in FY 2020 and beyond. Mariposa County would like to offer any assistance we can provide in order to ensure a smooth passage for H.R. 3043 and safeguard this critical funding for future generations. Should this or any similar bill come to the Senate, we would appreciate your support. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Miles Menetrey, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

CC:
Senator Kamala Harris
Congressman Tom McClintock
Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick