

DEPARTMENT: Administration

BY: Rick Benson

PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: Discussion and approval of the County's 2011 legislative platform. The legislative platform is the County Board of Supervisor's declaration of issues and items that are of importance to the citizens of the County. By identifying priorities, the platform helps guide this office and County departments in recommending legislative positions. The platform also provides the County Administrative Officer with direction as to the County's position in those instances when a timely response is necessary. This year's platform addresses the many calls for reform within the state government including the proposal by the Governor to realign programs and funding. It also includes several suggestions from departments.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: The Board annually develops and approves a legislative platform.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION: The Board may wish to alter the proposed platform. Without an adopted platform the direction will be lacking to departments regarding the County's position on important legislative actions.

Financial Impact? () Yes (x) No	Current FY Cost: \$	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? () Yes () No () Partially Funded		
Amount in Budget: \$		List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Additional Funding Needed: \$		Draft 2011 Legislative Platform
Source:		
Internal Transfer		
Unanticipated Revenue	4/5's vote	
Transfer Between Funds	4/5's vote	
Contingency	4/5's vote	
() General () Other		

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 11-2 Ord. No. _____
 Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
 Absent: _____
 Approved
 Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
 Comments:

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
 Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
 County of Mariposa, State of California
 By: _____
 Deputy

CAO: *[Signature]*



COUNTY of MARIPOSA

P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

JIM ALLEN, CHAIR
JANET BIBBY, VICE-CHAIR
LEE STETSON
LYLE TURPIN
KEVIN CANN

DISTRICT V
DISTRICT III
DISTRICT I
DISTRICT II
DISTRICT IV



MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: RICHARD J. BENSON, CAO
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *MW*
SUBJECT: Discussion and Approval of the County's 2011 Legislative Platform
RES. 11-92

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on March 15, 2011

ACTION AND VOTE:

8 **Administration**
Discussion and Approval of the County's 2011 Legislative Platform
BOARD ACTION: Rick Benson reviewed the platform and discussion was held. Supervisor Bibby suggested that the Mining and Mineral Exhibit, First 5 and the Fairgrounds funding status be included. It was noted that the Mineral Exhibit is an agency decision and not a legislative action. Rick Benson clarified that the platform does not preclude the Board from taking specific action on items. (M)Cann, (S)Turpin, Res. 11-92 was adopted approving the County's 2011 Legislative Platform, with the inclusion of First 5 and the Fairgrounds to the "Quality of Life Services"/Ayes: Unanimous.

Cc: File

COUNTY OF MARIPOSA 2011 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

General Principles

The County of Mariposa supports legislation that provides governmental decision making at the level closest to the people whenever it is likely to produce the most effective and efficient results. We support further reforms in the State-local fiscal relationship that will improve the County's ability to finance and efficiently administer both mandated and discretionary services, while opposing legislation that creates mandates without State or Federal funding sources to carry them out.

It is also our general legislative aim to preserve and build the County's job base and to improve the regulatory climate for private enterprise. We support State investment in local infrastructure; State/local initiatives to provide venture capital; tax and financial incentives that will encourage the growth of new and existing businesses in the County.

State Realignment Proposals

Mariposa County believes that California government is broken and that the status quo is unacceptable. We agree with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) in their call for reforms which will allow for the efficient and effective delivery of government services to Californians. Mariposa County believes that any proposal to realign program responsibilities and costs must be consistent with the "CSAC 2010 Realignment Principles" as follows:

The revenues provided in the base year for each program must recognize existing levels of funding in relation to program need in light of recent reductions and the Human Services Funding Deficit. There must be a mechanism to protect against entitlement program costs consuming non-entitlement program funding.

Revenues must be levied statewide and should not require a local vote nor should the state divert any federal revenues currently allocated to realigned programs.

Any proposed swap of programs must be revenue neutral.

Mandates must be reimbursed in a timely manner. Counties must have the maximum flexibility to manage the realigned programs and the state must remain responsible for maintenance of effort requirements of the federal government.

Local Control

Land Use: We support legislation that promotes local land use authority and that authorizes, but does not mandate, the formation of regional alliances.

We support the continuation of the Williamson Act and call for the reinstatement of full funding.

Programs: The County supports reforms that will promote accountability in program performance at the State and local level. We require local control over program scope and implementation, including the ability to privatize services when it is more effective

and cost-efficient to do so. Legislation and administrative changes are also needed that simplify, consolidate, standardize, reduce or eliminate data-gathering, reporting, and licensing requirements imposed on counties. Administrative burdens should be reduced for local government and those whom we are mandated to regulate.

Mariposa County supports efforts to provide opt out provisions to the recently enacted sprinkler requirements for private dwellings and supports efforts to equalize requirements for manufactured homes.

Labor Relations and Employee Benefits: State legislation should not intrude into the local collective bargaining process nor interfere with the County's ability to manage and compensate its employees as it sees fit. We support reforms in Civil Service laws to allow counties to rely solely upon the collective bargaining process to establish terms and conditions of employment. We support legislation to allow local entities a greater degree of flexibility in determining negotiated retirement benefit levels.

County Finances

Revenue, Fees and Taxation: The County supports reforms that build upon the enactment of Proposition 1A to provide greater authority to generate local revenues for discretionary services and to protect local revenue streams against State budgetary incursions. Responsible government at all levels – State, Federal and local – dictates that any proposed new or increased fees must represent the actual cost of service delivery.

The County supports legislation so as not to create a need at the State level to borrow from counties and districts in the future.

State and Federal Mandated Programs; State Interest Programs: All mandated programs must be fully and equitably funded by the mandating authority as intended by voter enactment of Proposition 1A. Mandated programs that are not fully funded should be made optional at the local level, and counties should have broad management authority of all mandated programs.

Other Post Employment Benefits: We support efforts by the Governor and the Legislature to explore statewide efforts to assist counties in dealing with unfunded liabilities. We support legislation allowing counties flexibility in dealing with other post employment benefits.

County Services

Criminal Justice and Public Protection: Public protection is the most important obligation of counties, which administer the local portion of California's criminal justice system. We support State and Federal expenditures to help prepare and equip local law enforcement agencies to fulfill their role in preventing and responding to terrorist attacks.

We support strengthening State search and seizure statutes to help combat gang and drug related crimes. We support State expenditures to promote local law enforcement

training, to aid in drug and rural crime prevention, to bolster juvenile justice intervention and prevention efforts, and to counteract and prevent gang violence.

We support full State funding for County trial courts as envisioned by the trial court realignment plan, together with the appropriate number of State funded judicial positions and State financing for any State-mandated upgrades of court facilities.

The County supports continued State funding for juvenile probation services.

Health and Social Services: The County recognizes and supports the continued reform of State and Federal health and welfare entitlement programs. Counties must have sufficient program flexibility to coordinate and consolidate the delivery of services to children, adults, senior citizens, and veterans as cost-effectively as possible. We support full Federal funding of the federally mandated child support enforcement program.

We support legislation to provide health care to the indigent which provides full funding to counties in recognition of their vital role in delivering these services.

We support legislation that will enhance and make subsidized employment programs for Welfare-to-Work families and for individuals and families participating solely in the Cal Fresh (Food Stamp) program.

We support legislation that will improve and enhance transitional services to foster youth and other youth who need help to move into an independent adulthood.

We support legislation that will assist local communities to work collaboratively together toward the goals of poverty reduction and capacity building for individuals, families, and communities.

In the event that State funding sources, such as realignment funds, are reduced as part of the State's comprehensive health care reform package, we support legislation which would relieve counties of their mandate to provide health services to the indigent.

Transportation: We support legislation that provides equitable State and Federal funding for roads, highways, and public transit, and that promotes the timely development of local transportation projects at counties' discretion. We support continued State funding and assistance formulas for grade separation projects, Proposition 42 payments to counties for road maintenance, and Proposition 42 financing for State Traffic Congestion Relief projects. We support legislation providing equitable gasoline tax distribution to counties without incorporated cities and legislation recognizing local general fund participation in road funding, regardless of source, as self-help.

We support legislation to provide State and Federal funding to fully repair and maintain the vital corridors providing access to Yosemite National Park in particular the County supports and encourages legislation and State and Federal intervention to

enable rapid repairs to State Highway 140 in order to allow full access to all vehicles in and out of Yosemite National Park.

Quality of Life Services: We support legislation to provide State funding assistance for local libraries, parks, and museums.

We believe that County Fairs are a part of the basic fabric of California life and, as such, encourage our legislature to continue to provide funding.

We support the funding of the First 5 programs.

We support efforts to provide high-speed internet access to all areas of California.

Environmental Quality: In carrying out State and Federal mandates for environmental protection and waste disposal, the County must retain the ability to manage programs efficiently, cost-effectively, and without excessive permitting requirements. Toward that aim, we support the streamlining of environmental regulations and consolidation of permitting in order to reduce costs and unnecessary delays.

We support implementation of the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts that balances social and economic benefits with species protection and ensures that policies are based on good science.

We support the State's continued, full funding of local Weed Management Areas and funding of the UC Cooperative Extension program.