

DEPARTMENT: Administration

BY: Rick Benson
PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Discussion and approval of the County's 2010 Legislative Platform. The Legislative Platform is the County Board of Supervisor's declaration of issues and items that are important to the citizens of Mariposa County. By identifying priorities, the Legislative Platform helps guide County departments in recommending legislative positions. The Legislative Platform also provides the County Administrative Officer and the County's legislative consultant with direction on the County's position in those instances when a timely response is necessary. This year's Legislative Platform addresses the many calls for reform within State government.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board of Supervisors annually develops and approves a Legislative Platform.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Provide direction to staff to modify the Legislative Platform as presented. Do not adopt a 2010 Legislative Platform. County departments and our legislative consultant will need to request direction from the Board of Supervisors as legislative issues arise, which may delay a response to a critical legislative matter.

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 2010 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.: 10-33 Ord. No. _____
Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
Absent: _____
() Approved
(X) Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
Comments:

CAO: 



COUNTY of MARIPOSA

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

BRAD ABORN
LYLE TURPIN
JANET BIBBY
KEVIN CANN
JIM ALLEN

DISTRICT I
DISTRICT II
DISTRICT III
DISTRICT IV
DISTRICT V



MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: RICK BENSON, CAO
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *mm*
SUBJECT: 2010 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM
Res. 10-33

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on January 19, 2010

ACTION AND VOTE:

Discussion and Approval of the County's 2010 Legislative Platform (County Administrative Officer/Personnel/Risk Manager)

BOARD ACTION: Rick Benson initiated discussion. Supervisor Bibby suggested that consideration be given to adding support of collection of revenues due the counties and the State; support of the State's efforts in maintaining safe food production and the California Grown campaign; and supporting the State's tourism and shop in California programs. Supervisor Allen provided a reminder for the Board that it needs to live up to the platform on a local level; i.e., being user friendly for businesses; and he feels the retirement system needs to change. Supervisor Aborn suggested that water and land use issues be included. Chair Cann suggested that the Board members meet with the County Administrative Officer on drafting suggested language changes for further consideration by the Board.

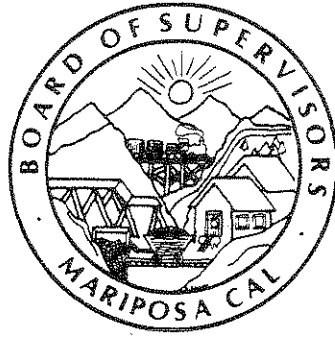
Input from the public was provided by the following:

Lester Bridges, President of the Chamber of Commerce, advised that they are willing and welcome an offer to provide input relative to business in the County – he noted the importance of small businesses.

(M)Bibby, (S)Turpin, Res. 10-33 was adopted approving the 2010 Legislative Platform. Supervisor Aborn asked that the Platform be brought back in two weeks for further consideration of possible amendments. Ayes: Unanimous.

Cc: File

**Mariposa County
Board of Supervisors**



District 1 BRAD ABORN
District 2 LYLE TURPIN
District 3 JANET BIBBY
District 4 KEVIN CANN
District 5 JIM ALLEN

RICHARD J. BENSON
County Administrative Officer

MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board

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February 11, 2010

Mr. Chuck Cole
Advocation, Inc.
1121 L Street, Ste. 610
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Cole,

Attached is the 2010 Mariposa County Legislative Platform approved by the Board of Supervisors on January 19, 2010. Primarily this platform is meant to be used as a general guideline for legislative items.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. I look forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Benson
County Administrative Officer

RJB/mlj

Enclosure

COUNTY OF MARIPOSA 2010 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; and development and funding of a local education and workforce training investment plan that matches the requirements of growing and emerging industries.

State Reform

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 hereby adopts the "CSAC Principles for Reform 2010" as follows:

Reforms should align responsibility with authority among state and local governments. Programs must match service to funding level or adjust expectations.

Reforms should result in responsible and transparent decisions and state government.

Reforms should reestablish accountability and responsibility between California citizens and their elected leaders.

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.

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 newly recognized unfunded liabilities as a result of changes in accounting methodologies. We support legislation allowing counties flexibility in dealing with other postemployment 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 crime. 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.

We oppose legislation decriminalizing the use and possession of marijuana.

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.

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.

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 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 legislation to prevent implementation of unnecessary and burdensome regulation of septic systems.

We support the state's continued, full funding of local Weed Management Areas

We also support the sovereignty of land use ordinances to protect the people and the environment of Mariposa County against encroachment by agencies acting outside their boundaries.