DEPARTMENT: Board of Supervisors  
BY: Supervisor Fritz  
PHONE: 966-3222 

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a resolution encouraging the University of California, Board of Regents to support UC Merced’s efforts to plan and establish a School of Medicine in the San Joaquin Valley.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Assessments point to a shortage of up to 17,000 physicians in the State of California by 2015; the San Joaquin Valley is already medically underserved and growing population and high incidence of health problems point to an overwhelming need to address access to health care in the region.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not adopt the resolution in support and encouragement

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes (X) No  Current FY Cost: $  
Annual Recurring Cost: $  
Budgeted in Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No  ( ) Partially Funded  
Amount in Budget:  
Additional Funding Needed:  
Source:  
Internal Transfer  
Unanticipated Revenue  
4/5’s vote  
Transfer Between Funds  
4/5’s vote  
Contingency  
4/5’s vote  
( ) General  ( ) Other

List Attachments, number pages consecutively

Resolution

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

Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board  
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: Deputy

Revised Dec. 2002
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 08-3

To develop a University of California School of Medicine in the Valley with a mission to advance the health and well-being of the public, with a focus on the Valley.

WHEREAS, assessments of California’s health care work force point to a shortage of up to 17,000 physicians in the State of California by 2015; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley currently has 24 percent fewer primary care physicians and approximately 50 percent fewer specialists per capita than the rest of California as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the Valley, which is already medically underserved, will be disproportionately impacted by a statewide shortage of physicians; and

WHEREAS, the Valley’s growing population and high incidence of health problems point to an overwhelming need to address access to health care in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Valley loses millions of dollars from the economy each year as local residents with health insurance coverage seek medical care outside of the region; and

WHEREAS, one of UC Merced’s goals is to be a leader in health care alliance aimed at improving the well being of San Joaquin Valley residents; and

WHEREAS, an expert task force charged with beginning planning for UC health sciences and medical education in the San Joaquin Valley recommends a model that leverages existing health care resources in the Valley, thereby bypassing the $2-4 million per bed price tag associated with constructing a new university-owned teaching hospital; and

WHEREAS, the recommended model for medical education at UC Merced aims to increase the number of health care professionals practicing in the Valley, particularly those that are competent in multi-cultural medicine; and

WHEREAS, a University of California school of medicine in the Valley will raise the level of care across the Valley through access to the latest advances and treatments associated with UC health sciences research programs, change perceptions about health care quality, keep health care dollars in the region and serve as an economic engine for the San Joaquin Valley; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley must be united in its efforts to develop a stellar medical education program that serves the health needs of its residents;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: by the Board of Supervisors for the County of Mariposa, to strongly encourage the University of California, Board of Regents to support UC Merced’s efforts to plan and establish a School of Medicine in the San Joaquin Valley. In addition to training physicians to meet regional and state needs, a UC Merced School of Medicine will extend biomedical and environmental sciences research programs throughout the region, which will help improve the economics well being of the Valley and the quality of life of its diverse residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: for the UC Board of Regents to support the development of a University of California School of Medicine within a short time period, recognizing that physician training is completed in six to eight years after entry into medical school.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors this 8th day of January, 2008, by unanimous vote.

AYES: ABORN, TURPIN, BIBBY, FRITZ, PICKARD

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

Ivy Turpin
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Margie Williams,
Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form

Thomas P. Guarino,
County Counsel