RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2013-510

MEETING: November 12, 2013

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor

RE: Adopt a Resolution Supporting SB 405 (Padilla)

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt a Resolution Supporting Senate Bill 405 (Padilla) Single-Use Plastic Bag Phase Out. Each year in California more than 13 billion single-use plastic bags are handed out by retailers. A very small percentage of these single-use plastic bags get recycled while the majority wind up littering our streams, rivers, and coastline, and endanger birds, marine life, and wildlife. Single-use plastic bags also contribute to blight our communities and clog local storm water systems. Because these plastic bags take 1,000 years to degrade, their impacts are compounded every year. California local governments spend more than $25 million each year to collect and bury plastic bag waste, and the plastic bags that do enter our recycling centers slow the sorting process and jam machinery.

State Senator Padilla introduced SB 405 earlier this year, but fell 3 votes short of passage. The Senator will be reintroducing this bill again and has requested local government support for SB 405. There are currently 80 California cities and counties that support the phase out of single-use plastic bags in their community.

Please see the attached fact sheet distributed by Senator Padilla for additional information on SB 405.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has adopted Resolutions supporting various pieces of legislation that they believe will benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not adopt the Resolution. Individual Board members may indicate their support for this legislation, which may not carry the same weight as a Resolution adopted by the entire Board.
ATTACHMENTS:
SB 405 Fact Sheet (PDF)
Resolution Supporting SB 405 (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Not Recommended

RESULT: ADOPTED [3 TO 2]
MOVER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Lee Stetson, Merlin Jones, Kevin Cann
NAYS: Janet Bibby, John Carrier

Rick Benson, County Administrator/Officer
MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 13-510

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 405 (PADILLA)
SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAG PHASE OUT

WHEREAS, each year in California more than 13 billion single-use plastic bags are handed out by retailers and only three-percent of these bags are recycled; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags cause slow sorting and jam machinery at recycling centers costing California more than $25 million dollars each year to collect and bury the plastic bag waste; and

WHEREAS, according to a study commissioned by the United States Marine Debris Monitoring Program, plastic bags remain one of the top items found consistently during annual beach cleanups; and

WHEREAS, the Convention on Biological Diversity reports a total of 663 species have been affected by plastic marine pollution through entanglement or ingestion; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency finds that reducing the use of an item is one of the most effective ways to save our natural resources and protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, a third of Californians are subject to laws phasing out the use of single-use plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, State Senator Padilla has authored Senate Bill 405, which would prohibit grocery stores and large retailers from providing single-use bags to customers in 2015, and would expand that prohibition to convenience stores and food marts in 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County, a political subdivision of the State of California, supports Senate Bill 405 that would prohibit grocery stores, large retailers, convenience stores, and food marts from providing free single-use plastic bags to consumers, and require those stores to have reusable bags available for purchase.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of November 2013 by the following vote:

AYES: STETSON, JONES, CANN
NOES: BIBBY, CARRIER
ABSTAINED: NONE
EXCUSED: NONE

LEE STETSON, Chairman

ATTEST:  
RENE LAROCHE, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEVEN W. DAHLEM, County Counsel