RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes__ No X )

Consent to allow Mariposa Superior Court to withdraw from coverage under the County of Mariposa Worker’s Compensation policy without the 90-day notice for such withdrawals otherwise required by G.C. 77212(b). The date of the withdrawal from coverage under the policy will be specified at a future time.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

This matter has not been before the Board of Supervisors previously. The Mariposa Superior Court has been closely reviewing its expenditures since the Governor ordered reductions in the budgets of all state-funded agencies. It currently plans to switch Worker’s Comp insurance from the County’s Program to a program offered by the Administrative Office of the Courts through the Driver/Alliant Insurance Company. Any quotes for such insurance from Driver/Alliant, however, can only be held open for ten days, necessitating an ability to terminate a County Worker’s Comp policy in less than the 90-day notice period required under GC 77212(b). That code section, however, permits termination of a county service in less than 90 days if the County consents to waive notice. Consequently, the Mariposa Superior Court is requesting the ability to terminate such coverage without 90 days notice.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
1) Approve
2) Provide alternative direction

Should the Board of Supervisors not decide to approve the Superior Court’s request for a waiver of 90 day notice, the Court will be faced with having to pay significant increases in Worker’s Comp rates for which it does not have the funding, and, in light of expected budgetary reductions from the State, will be a burden to have to pay. The Administrative Office of the Courts is planning to offer Worker’s Comp itself as of 1/1/03, and the Court will still have to terminate the County policy to join this program.