



# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration • 209-966-3222



## RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-163

MEETING: April 7, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Hodson, CAO

**MINUTE ORDER ATTACHED**

RE: Legislative Platform 2015

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### RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Discussion and Approval of the County's 2015 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 Payment In-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) issue, continued funding for the Ferguson slide rock shed project and the need for adequate funding for realigned programs and Child Support Services.

### 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.

### ATTACHMENTS:

**Legislative Platform 2015 (DOC)**

### CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended

*Mary Hodson*

Mary Hodson, CAO

3/31/2015

**RESULT:** ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor  
**SECONDER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor  
**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier



# COUNTY of MARIPOSA

MERLIN JONES, CHAIR  
JOHN CARRIER, VICE-CHAIR  
ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE  
MARSHALL LONG  
JOHN CARRIER

DISTRICT II  
DISTRICT V  
DISTRICT I  
DISTRICT III  
DISTRICT V



## MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE ORDER

TO: MARY HODSON, CAO  
FROM: RENE' LaROCHE, Clerk of the Board *RL*  
SUBJECT: Discussion and Approval of the County's 2015 Legislative Platform  
Resolution: 15-163

The following action was taken by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors on April 7, 2015:

### 3. Administration RES-2015-163

#### Discussion and Approval of the County's 2015 Legislative Platform

Mary Hodson/County Administrative Officer gave the staff report.  
Additional language was suggested by Supervisors Smallcombe and Carrier.

No public input.

*Action was taken to adopt the legislative platform, amended to include additional language: under the "Transportation" category, that supports appropriate taxation of all vehicles, including electric vehicles, to fund road repair, maintenance and rebuilding; under the "Quality of Life" category, that supports efforts to ensure that rural counties have equal access to broadband; under the "Quality of Life" category, that supports county fairgrounds being connected to broadband because they are the point of congregation during times of disaster; and under the "Health and Human Services" category, that supports enhanced levels of veterans support services.*

**RESULT:** ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor  
**SECONDER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor  
**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier

## **COUNTY OF MARIPOSA 2015 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**

Mariposa County believes that the revenues provided for each realigned program must recognize existing levels of funding in relation to the program. Revisions in the realignment funding formula, specifically changes associated with AB109, should take into consideration the unique circumstances of small counties which have higher per capita costs for realigned services.

### **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 oppose legislation that withholds local transportation funds pending compliance with State-mandated regional land use plans. We support incentives to encourage counties to preserve farmland and open space. The County supports full restoration of Williamson Act subventions to encourage farm land preservation.

**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. 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.

**Labor Relations and Employee Benefits:** 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 reforms in the California Public Employees' Retirement System to establish what is to be classified as pensionable

compensation and Workers Compensation statutes to remove incentives for abuse of this system.

### **County Finances**

**Revenue, Fees and Taxation:** The County supports State and Federal payments to counties in lieu of property taxes (PILT) for State and Federal lands and facilities. As a small county with more than 50% owned by the Federal government, the PILT has a direct impact on local general funds and the County's ability to provide mandated services.

The County supports efforts to secure a multi-year reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools Act and Community Self-Determination Act (SRS).

**State and Federal Mandated 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. We support legislation requiring the State to pay interest to counties on all delayed payments for State mandated programs. We support legislation to provide State constitutional protection exempting counties from incurring any costs to carry out unfunded mandates, in particular new public safety responsibilities imposed on counties by the enactment of AB 109.

We support restoration of full funding for Weights & Measures programs, in particular, the Quality Control program which protects consumers.

### **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. Corrections realignment must deliver sufficient resources to counties to accompany any added incarceration and treatment responsibilities for adult and juvenile offenders, such as those created by enactment of AB 109 that sent more convicted felons to county jails and probation facilities and shifted substantial law enforcement and cost burdens to counties.

We support legislation and funding for supervision strategies and Evidence Based Practices (EBP) that consider the treatment and service needs of offenders under probation supervision with mental illness and substance use disorders in order to improve outcomes for these populations and incentivize successful completion of programs for all offenders under probation supervision.

We support full State funding for County trial courts and State financing for any State-mandated upgrades of court facilities.

The County supports continued State funding for juvenile probation services along with application of EBP within the community.

**Health and Human 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.

Local Child Support Enforcement Agencies continue to provide quality services under the pressure of stagnant revenues and increasing costs. We support legislation that will increase State budget allocations to a level that will allow Federal matching revenues to fully fund the agencies.

We support Congregate Care Reform that will improve and enhance services to foster youth. It is important that we retain the flexibility to ensure the best placement option for each child in the foster care system.

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

We support the renewal of California's Federal Medicaid section 1115 waiver.

We support legislative efforts to provide enhanced levels of service for our local veterans and their families.

**Transportation:** We support MAP-21 reauthorization that will provide multi-year funding for locally owned infrastructure and increase local decision making authority that will expedite project delivery.

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 oppose legislation that shifts taxation from fuel sales taxes, which are constitutionally guaranteed for local transportation, to excise taxes, which are not similarly protected.

We support the use of alternative forms of transportation including electric vehicles (EV) and legislation that would provide for a means by which these vehicles would share in the appropriate road use taxes.

We support the continued funding by the State to fully repair and maintain the vital corridors providing access to Yosemite National Park in particular, the County supports the current State project to build a "Rock Shed" on 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 restore funding.

We support the continued funding of the First 5 programs.

We support efforts to provide high-speed broadband internet access to all areas of California. It is especially important to ensure broadband access to the more rural areas that currently have limited or no access. In times of local emergencies it is vital to have this access at our local fairgrounds and other facilities that are used for shelter or emergency coordination efforts to ensure dissemination of and access to pertinent information.

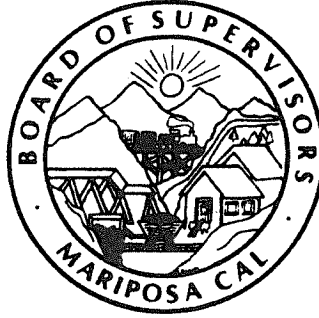
**Environmental Quality:** In carrying out State and Federal mandates for environmental protection, waste disposal, ground and storm water management, the County must retain the ability to manage programs efficiently, cost-effectively, and without excessive permitting requirements. Toward that aim, we support the streamlining of Prop 1 Water Bond Implementation and the development of funding guidelines for water management.

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 encourage restoration of full funding for pest prevention and pesticide enforcement programs.

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE  
District 2 ..... MERLIN JONES  
District 3 ..... MARSHALL LONG  
District 4 ..... KEVIN CANN  
District 5 ..... JOHN CARRIER



MARY HODSON  
County Administrative Officer

RENE LAROCHE  
Clerk of the Board

P. O. Box 784  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
(209) 966-3222  
(800) 736-1252

Fax (209) 966-5147  
[www.mariposacounty.org/board](http://www.mariposacounty.org/board)

April 14, 2015

Honorable Assemblyman Frank Bigelow  
State Capitol, Room 6027  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0005

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

Dear Assemblyman Bigelow,

Enclosed is the 2015 Legislative platform as adopted by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors. We hope that this information will help in your efforts to write, advocate and implement legislation associated with the issues we have identified as being significant to our county.

Thank you for your efforts and please contact me if you need additional information.

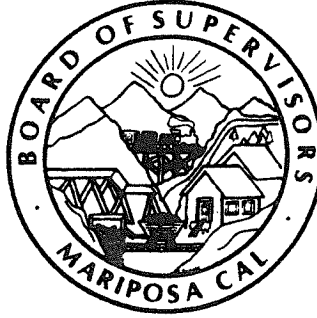
Sincerely,

MARY HODSON  
County Administration Officer



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April 14, 2015

Honorable Congressman Tom McClintock  
2331 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 90515

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

Dear Congressman McClintock,

Enclosed is the 2015 Legislative platform as adopted by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors. We hope that this information will help in your efforts to write, advocate and implement legislation associated with the issues we have identified as being significant to our county.

Thank you for your efforts and please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

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April 14, 2015

Honorable Senator Tom Berryhill  
State Capitol, Room 3076  
Sacramento, CA. 95814

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

Dear Senator Berryhill,

Enclosed is the 2015 Legislative platform as adopted by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors. We hope that this information will help in your efforts to write, advocate and implement legislation associated with the issues we have identified as being significant to our county.

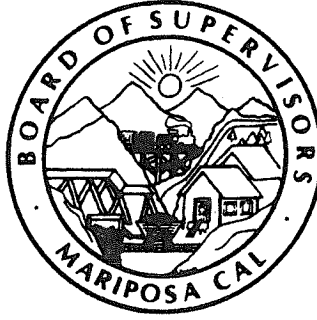
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April 14, 2015

Honorable Senator Barbara Boxer  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

Dear Senator Boxer,

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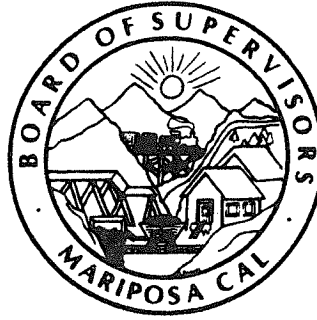
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April 14, 2015

Honorable Senator Diane Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

Dear Senator Feinstein,

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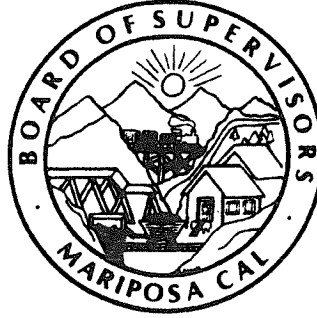
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April 14, 2015

Rural County Representatives of California  
1215 K Street  
Suite 1650  
Sacramento, CA. 95814

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

Rural County Representatives of California,

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April 14, 2015

California State Association of Counties  
1100 K Street  
Suite 101  
Sacramento, CA. 95814

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

California State Association of Counties,

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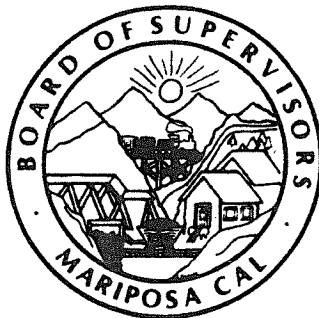
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April 14, 2015

National Association of Counties  
25 Massachusetts Ave N.W.  
Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Mariposa County 2015 Legislative Platform

National Association of Counties,

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