AGENDA ITEM NO.: 1

MARIPOSA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DEPARTMENT: Board of Supervisors
BY: Eric Erickson
Chairman
PHONE: 966-4744

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:
(Policy Item: Yes ___ No X__)

Resolution Requesting President Clinton and the Congress to Honor Their Partnership and Promise to the State of California by Appropriating Sufficient Federal Funding to Reimburse States and Localities for the Cost of Services Mandated by Federal Law

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The attached letter from Sandra Smoley, Secretary of the State and Consumer Services Agency, requests that the County support Governor Wilson's effort to ensure that the federal government reimburses states and localities for the cost of services mandated by the federal government.

The attached resolution is a response in support of reimbursement to the State for $1.45 billion plus related costs for costs mandated by the federal government by federal immigrant and refugee legislation.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
1. Adopt the resolution.
2. Do not adopt the resolution. Mariposa County will not go on record for support of the reimbursement request for federal immigrant and refugee mandates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COSTS:</th>
<th>SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(X) Not Applicable</td>
<td>List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Budgeted current FY</td>
<td>Letter from Secretary Smoley</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Total anticipated costs</td>
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<td>C. Required additional funding</td>
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<td>D. Internal transfers</td>
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<td>SOURCE:</td>
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<td>( ) 4/5ths Vote Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Unanticipated revenues</td>
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<td>B. Reserve for contingencies</td>
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<td>C. Source description:</td>
<td>Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved: $</td>
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</tbody>
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CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No. 125-124
Vote - Ayes: Ord. No. 
Nees: 
Absent: 
Approved: 
Denied: 
Abstained: 
( ) 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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: This item on agenda as:
Recommended
Not Recommended
For Policy Determination
Submitted with Comment
Returned for Further Action
Comment: 
A.O. Initials: 

12-150SA
Action Form Revised 5/92
RESOLUTION No. 93-174

"A FAILED FEDERAL PROMISE"

WHEREAS, the United States was founded by and continues to offer a home to immigrants seeking a better life, as well as a safe harbor for refugees fleeing oppression and persecution; and

WHEREAS, the nation's immigration and refugee policy, set by the federal government, acknowledges some special needs which require government assistance for immigrants and refugees and provides access to medical, public assistance and other services that are provided to U.S. citizens by state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the federal government recognized the cost of these services and promised to provide financial support to the states but has failed to reimburse states for the full cost of services mandated by federal law; and

WHEREAS, Governor Wilson has asked the federal government to pay California $1.45 billion for services mandated on state government by federal immigration and refugee legislation;

WHEREAS, in a bipartisan effort, the Governor has joined with members of the Legislature of the State of California and the California delegation to the Congress of the United States to ask the Clinton Administration and the leadership in Congress to provide the $1.45 billion, plus related local costs, in the 1994 federal budget allocations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors respectfully urges the President and the Congress of the United States to provide California with $1.45 billion, plus related local costs, for services provided to immigrants and refugees as a result of federal immigration and refugee policy.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 23rd day of March, 1993 by the following vote:

AYES: Baggett, Balmain, Erickson, Parker

NOES: None

ABSENT: Taber

ERIC J. ERICKSON, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:
February 19, 1993

Honorable Eric J. Erickson
Chair, Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
PO Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338

Dear Supervisor Erickson:

California is home to 60 percent of the nation's immigrants, 40 percent of the nation's refugees, and 50 percent of the nation's undocumented immigrants. It's difficult to read a newspaper anymore without being overwhelmed with evidence of how California's ever-increasing immigrant population--both legal and undocumented--has stretched our continually shrinking financial resources beyond the breaking point. As we work to make sure our state welcomes with open arms all who wish to live here, we cannot become a state that pushes our newcomers even more deeply into poverty or farther into the underground economy.

As a County Supervisor, you are faced every day with incredibly tough--and often impossible--choices to make in your struggle to continue to provide the necessary services to your county's residents while keeping up with those services the federal government has mandated on you.

This week, Governor Wilson went to Washington D.C. to spearhead the effort to ensure that the federal government reimburses states and localities for the cost of services mandated by federal government. He is working with his fellow governors across the United States to join together in urging the President to support this cause.

I am writing you now to tell you how you can help in the effort to make the federal government honor its promise and responsibility to our state--and your county--for carrying their fair share of the cost burden caused by documented and undocumented immigrants.
February 19, 1993

Page two

PLEASE HAVE YOUR BOARD MEMBERS JOIN YOU IN A RESOLUTION CALLING UPON PRESIDENT CLINTON AND THE CONGRESS TO HONOR THEIR PARTNERSHIP AND PROMISE TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BY APPROPRIATING SUFFICIENT FEDERAL FUNDING TO REIMBURSE STATES AND LOCALITIES FOR THE COST OF SERVICES MANDATED BY FEDERAL LAW.

Your Board resolution can have significant impact, particularly since our new President was himself a strong advocate for relieving the states from federal mandates when he served as Governor of Arkansas.

This is a subject that is near and dear to my heart – as one who stood with you just a few short months ago as a Sacramento County Supervisor, I know what you’re going through. Let’s work together on this one to make sure that our state and counties are not being forced to take more than their fair share of the financial hit in these tough times.

My deputy will be following up with you shortly to see if there’s anything we can do to assist you. If you can help actively in this effort, I invite you to call me at 916/653-4090. And if your Board enacts a resolution on this issue, I hope you will send me a copy at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

SANDRA R. SMOLEY
Secretary
A RESOLUTION

"A Failed Federal Promise"

Whereas, The United States was founded by immigrants seeking a better life for themselves and their families; and

Whereas, America continues to offer a home to immigrants, as well as a safe harbor for refugees fleeing oppression and persecution; and

Whereas, Some of the nation's immigrants and refugees have special needs which require government assistance in order to facilitate a rapid assimilation; and

Whereas, The nation's immigration and refugee policy, set by the federal government, acknowledges these needs by requiring that the new residents have access to medical, public assistance and other services that are provided to U.S. citizens by state and local governments; and

Whereas, California, home to 54 percent of the nation's Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) immigrants, nearly 40 percent of the nation's refugees and more than 30 percent of the nation's undocumented immigrants, recognizes the importance of health and welfare services to these new residents; and

Whereas, Along with the mandate to provide services, the federal government recognized the cost of such services, and promised to provide financial support to the states. Unfortunately, the federal government has failed to reimburse the states for the full cost of services mandated by federal law; and

Whereas, The cornerstone of the federal-state relationship must be fairness and honesty, California is looking to Congress and the Clinton Administration to forge a new relationship with the states; one that honestly recognizes the financial strain imposed by federal mandates without fair compensation; and

Whereas, The nation as a whole benefits from the social and economic contributions of these new residents, the cost of assimilating immigrants and refugees should be borne by the all Americans; and

Whereas, Governor Wilson has asked the federal government to pay California $1.45 billion for services mandated on state government by federal immigration and refugee legislation;

Whereas, In a bipartisan effort, the Governor has joined with members of the Legislature of the State of California and the California delegation to the Congress of the United States to ask the Clinton Administration and the leadership in Congress to provide the $1.45 billion, plus related local costs, in the 1994 federal budget allocations;

Whereas, If the state does not receive the requested federal funding, reductions will have to be made to important state programs causing undue hardship for millions of Californians, now; therefore, be it

Resolved by the ___________________________ that

______________________________ respectfully urges the President and the Congress of the United States to provide California with $1.45 billion, plus related local costs, for services provided to immigrants and refugees as a result of federal immigration and refugee policy.