RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2017-152

MEETING: March 28, 2017

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, Interim CAO

RE: Letter of Support for SB 187

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve a Letter of Support for Senate Bill 187, Which Would Allow State Fishing Licenses to be Valid for a Rolling 12-Month Period; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter.

Fishing licenses in California are currently based on the calendar year. Anglers that purchase a license later in the year often pay the same fee for the remaining calendar as those that purchase early in the year. Fish and game also reports that purchases of fishing licenses are declining overall.

Changing from a calendar year-based license to a license that is valid for twelve (12) months from the date of purchase is thought to help attract more people to the sport and enhance an economic development opportunity for rural counties. The bill is supported by the California Hotel & Lodging Association, the California Lodging Industry Association, the California Parks Hospitality Association and California Travel Association.

Please see the attached letter and bill language for additional information.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has approved letters supporting legislation that will benefit the County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the letter. Individual members of the Board may write their own letters of support as desired.

ATTACHMENTS:
SB187 Letter (PDF)
SB187 Text (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended
RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Menetrey, Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann
March 28, 2017

The Honorable Tom Berryhill
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 187 (Berryhill) – Sport Fishing Licenses: Duration
NOTICE OF SUPPORT

Dear Senator Berryhill:

On behalf of the County of Mariposa, I want to express our support for Senate Bill (SB) 187. The County believes this bill holds significant potential to increase sport fishing and tourism in Mariposa.

As you are aware, Mariposa County, along with others, depends on a robust tourism industry to support its economy, employment and residents’ quality of life. The County relies upon its natural resources to provide opportunities for activities such as sport fishing, which allow visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of Mariposa, while supporting the local economy.

Senate Bill 187 increases the benefits of sport fishing in counties such as Mariposa by allowing the State’s sport fishing license to be valid for 12 consecutive months from the date of purchase. Currently, a license expires at the end of the calendar year regardless of when it is purchased. This bill will help to reverse the downward trend of sport fishing activity and the resulting economic impacts to rural counties.

We look forward to working with you to advance this legislation. Thank you for your support in improving tourism and the economy of Mariposa County.

Sincerely,

Marshall Long
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, Chair

Cc: Assembly Member Frank Bigelow, 5th District