MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 90-408

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE IMPENDING BANKRUPTCY OF BUTTE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the State of California has a long history of imposing mandates and programs upon county government without providing the funds necessary to carry them out; and

WHEREAS, statewide, county government's ability to provide services has been eroding since Proposition 13 slashed property tax revenue in 1978 and a spending limit was imposed by Proposition 4 in 1979; and

WHEREAS, fifteen years ago, 65 percent of an average county's budget was earmarked for state-mandated programs and state-mandated programs now consume 95 percent of an average county's budget; and

WHEREAS, Local county revenues for state-required functions such as the justice system, health and welfare amount to as much as 70 percent of all local revenues in some counties; and

WHEREAS, the cost of performing and complying with state mandates and programs that are unfunded or insufficiently funded continues to cause the serious decline of local control over county budgets and represents a massive shift of state costs to local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, since state funding is not keeping pace with state program costs, counties are forced to bridge the gap by underfunding and closing down local programs such as fire protection, parks, libraries and general government administration; and

WHEREAS, county financial stability has eroded to the point where Butte County has announced its intention to file for bankruptcy; and

WHEREAS, all counties are subject to the inevitable effects of unfunded or insufficiently funded state mandates and program requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County hereby expresses grave concern over the impending declaration of bankruptcy by the County of Butte.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board calls upon the Governor and the Legislature of the State of California to work with California counties to undertake whatever governmental and fiscal reforms are necessary to restore California county government to a stable financial condition.
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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 28th day of August, 1990, by the following vote:

AYES: BAGGETT, PUNTE, ERICKSON, RADANOVICH, TABER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAINED: NONE

ARTHUR G. BAGGETT, JR., Chairman
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

JEFFERY G. GREEN, County Counsel