WHEREAS, Mariposa County has approximately 51% of its land area in public ownership and historically the county is noted for its multitude and variety of mineral deposits and;

WHEREAS, the United States has delegated authority for management of lands in public ownership to the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, and

WHEREAS, the United States Mining Laws of 1872 provide that the public has certain rights of entrance for the purpose of prospecting and taking up of mining claims within the boundaries of lands under public ownership, and those laws are still in full force and hold equal status with any other laws, and

WHEREAS, no specific provisions are set forth in the United States Mining Laws requiring reassessment of any mining claim following its initial discovery; and

WHEREAS, the action of the United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management in reviewing said mining claims and assessing their validity is purely administrative policy decision, and

WHEREAS, no official guidelines have been adopted by the United States Congress, the United States Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management for assessing the validity of mining claims,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors, County of Mariposa urges passage of legislation which will help to further the development and rehabilitation of our vital natural resources; will provide adequate, clear cut guidelines for determining the validity of mining claims; will protect both mining claim owners and the tax paying public; and will
expedite the patenting, by claim owners, of such claims as are
proven valid under this legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of these resolutions
be sent to the United States Secretary of the Interior, United
States Secretary of Agriculture, Senator Alan Cranston, Senator
John Tunney, Congressman Harold T. Johnson, Governor Ronald

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of July, 1971, by the
following vote:

AYES: Hurlbert, Long, Moffitt, Richardson
NOES: None
ABBRENT: Davis
NOT VOTING: None

[Signature]
Frank L. Long, Jr., Chairman of
the Board of Supervisors

[Signature]
Gabrielle Wilson, County Clerk
and ex-officio Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors