RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2020-102

MEETING: March 10, 2020
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer
RE: Ratify Notice of Sponsorship for AB 2459

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Ratify a Notice of Sponsorship for AB 2459 - Alcoholic Beverage Licenses.

Assembly Bill (AB) 2459 would authorize the California Department Alcoholic Beverage Control (Department) to issue up to ten additional new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places in the County of Mariposa.

Mariposa County tourism is the economic engine of the local economy and Yosemite National Park alone draws millions of visitors annually from across the globe. The limited number of alcoholic beverage licenses in Mariposa County does not reflect the increasing tourist population that visits Mariposa County each year and the growing need to offer lodging with full food and beverage services.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not ratify the notice, and direct staff to draft a letter withdrawing the notice of sponsorship.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
No financial impact

ATTACHMENTS:
AB 2459 (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
February 24, 2020

The Honorable Frank Bigelow
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 2459 (Bigelow)—Alcoholic Beverage Licenses: County of Mariposa

NOTICE OF SPONSORSHIP

Dear Assembly Member Bigelow:

On behalf of the County of Mariposa, we are proud to sponsor your Assembly Bill (AB) 2459, which would authorize the California Department Alcoholic Beverage Control (Department) to issue up to ten additional new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places in the County of Mariposa.

The Department regulates the application, issuance, and suspension of alcoholic beverage licenses. Since 1939, the set number of retail licenses to sell alcoholic beverages on or off the premises has been limited based on population ratios. The Department currently does not consider the number of visitors to a given county when determining the ratio of licensed premises.

Assembly Bill 2459 would authorize the Department to issue up to ten additional new original on-sale alcoholic beverage licenses to bona fide public eating places in Mariposa County that have a seating capacity for fifty or more persons. Importantly, AB 2459 would authorize the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors to determine the number of licenses to be issued in a given year. These new licenses cannot be transferred out of Mariposa County or to an establishment that does not qualify under the bill’s provisions.

As you are aware, in Mariposa County, tourism is the economic engine of the local economy and Yosemite National Park alone draws millions of visitors annually from across the globe. The limited number of alcoholic beverage licenses in Mariposa County does not
reflect the increasing tourist population that visits Mariposa County each year and the growing need of lodging with full food and beverage service.

We thank you for your leadership on this important local issue in Mariposa and proudly offer our sponsorship of AB 2459. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can help as this bill advances.

Sincerely,
Kevin Cann
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, Chair

cc: Senator Andreas Borgeas, 8th District