RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2020-367

MEETING:  July 7, 2020

TO:  The Board of Supervisors

FROM:  Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

RE:  Ratify a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 2459

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Ratify a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill (AB) 2459 Authorizing the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (Department) to Issue Up to 10 New Alcoholic Beverages Licenses in Mariposa County.

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.

Given its alignment with the legislative platform and the short time frame, staff has already sent this letter of support and recommends approval of this request to ratify that action.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board routinely approves or ratifies letters of support that it determines to be in the best interest of the county.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve. Staff would notify recipients of a retraction in that event.

ATTACHMENTS:
AB2459 Support Letter_Dodd  (PDF)
RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Marshall Long, Miles Menetrey
EXCUSED: Merlin Jones, Kevin Cann
June 22, 2020

The Honorable Bill Dodd, Chair
Senate Governmental Organization Committee
1020 N Street, Room 584
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Chairman Dodd:

On behalf of the County of Mariposa, we are proud to sponsor 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, tourism is the economic engine of Mariposa County. 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 for lodging with full food and beverage service.
We thank you for your consideration of this vitally important issue for Mariposa and ask for your support of AB 2459.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Kevin Cann, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Andreas Borgeas, 8th District
State Capitol, Room 3082
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Member Frank Bigelow, 5th District
State Capitol, Suite 4153
Sacramento, CA 94249