RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2012-188

MEETING: April 17, 2012

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RE: Resolution Supporting Senate Bill 1294

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a Resolution supporting Senate Bill 1294 Amending Section 21570 and adding Section 22900 to the California Government Code and including Mariposa County as a sponsor; Ratify the County Administrative Officer’s letter supporting Senate Bill 1294. The Board of Supervisors recently concluded negotiations with the County’s bargaining units and was successful in instituting the same medical insurance benefits for all county employees. An unintended consequence of this action was that some of the current Mariposa County retirees will see a reduction in their medical insurance benefit allowance. To correct this unintended action, at the County’s request State Senator Berryhill has introduced Senate Bill 1294 which will amend CalPERS governing laws and ensure that current Mariposa County retirees continue to receive the same level of medical insurance benefits as when they initially retired.

If enacted, Senate Bill 1294 will have no financial impact, as it will not increase or decrease current retiree health medical benefits.

Due to time constraints with the bill moving through the legislative process, there was insufficient time to have a letter approved by the Board of Supervisors. Staff is therefore requesting that the Board ratify a letter signed by the County Administrative Officer supporting Senate Bill 1294.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has adopted resolutions that support legislation they believe is in the best interest of the County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not adopt the Resolution. Without the support of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, it is highly unlikely that Senate Bill 1294 will be enacted. As a result, some current Mariposa County retirees will see a reduction in their medical insurance benefit allowance.

Do not ratify the County Administrative Officer’s letter supporting Senate Bill 1294 and direct staff to draft a letter removing support for this Bill.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**
There is no financial impact.

**ATTACHMENTS:**
SB 1294 support letter  (PDF)
SB 1294  (PDF)

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**
Requested Action Recommended

RESULT:  ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:  Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER:  Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
AYES:  Stetson, Turpin, Bibby, Cann, Allen
MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION 12 - 188
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 1294
AND INCLUDING MARIPOSA COUNTY AS SPONSOR

WHEREAS, to address the disparate treatment of County employees’ health benefits, the Board of Supervisors have negotiated new terms with each of the County’s bargaining units; and

WHEREAS, the agreed upon terms now provide equal medical insurance benefits for all County employees; and

WHEREAS, due to current CalPERS laws, an unintended consequence of this action has been a reduction in medical insurance benefit allowances for some Mariposa County retirees; and

WHEREAS, this was not the Board of Supervisors intent; and

WHEREAS, it is important to ensure that current Mariposa County retirees maintain their current level of medical insurance benefits; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1294 provides the legal means for the County to “grandfather” current Mariposa County retirees’ medical insurance benefits at their present level.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, a political subdivision of the State of California does hereby support the enactment of Senate Bill 1294; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mariposa County be included as a sponsor of Senate Bill 1294.

PASSED AND ADOPTED unanimously by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors this 17th day of April 2012.

JANET BIBBY, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEVEN W. DAHLEM, County Counsel

ATTEST:

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
May 1, 2012

Senator Tom Berryhill
6215 N. Fresno Street, Suite 104
Fresno, CA 93710

Dear Senator Berryhill:

At its meeting on April 17, 2012, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors adopted Mariposa County Resolution 12-188 in support of Senate Bill 1294 and that Mariposa County be included as a sponsor of Senate Bill 1294.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Board of Supervisor’s Resolution for you reference.

Sincerely,

Tracy Gauthier
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Enclosure