RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to sign a letter to document the support of Mariposa County for inclusion in the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) No. 226.

On December 8, 2010, the Foreign-Trade Zone No. 226 Advisory Board took action to recommend approval to the Merced County Board of Supervisors (Grantee) of the resolution authorizing the Grantee Chairman to sign the FTZ No. 226 Reorganization Application letter and recommended directing staff to submit the application to the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

On December 14, 2010, the Merced County Board of Supervisors authorized the Chairman to sign the FTZ No. 226 Reorganization Application letter and directed staff to submit the application to the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

In January of 2011, the Reorganization Application was submitted. It is now being requested, as part of the FTZB staff’s review of the application, that individual letters from appropriate county officials acknowledging the proposed inclusion of their counties in the services area of FTZ No. 226 be approved and submitted.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The San Joaquin Valley Foreign-Trade Zone Advisory Board (Board) was established in 1997, when the Merced FTZ No. 226 was established. Mariposa County has actively participated on this Board since its inception and will continue to do so in an effort to provide Mariposa County with the economic development benefits and opportunities that FTZ designation provides.

The Board has historically supported endeavors that will ultimately benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to sign the letter. Board members may write their own letters of support, which may not have the same level of influence as one from the entire Board.

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CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 1-5-4
Vote - Ayes: 5
Noes: ___
Revised Dec. 2002

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
No Opinion
Absent: ______

Approved

( ) Minute Order Attached  ( ) Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: ________________

Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: __________________________
Deputy

(Board Ad Hoc Committees)
April 19, 2011

Honorable John Pedrozo
Chairman
Merced County Board of Supervisors
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

Dear Chairman Pedrozo,

The purpose of this letter is to document the support of Mariposa County for inclusion in the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) No. 226. We have participated in the FTZ since its inception in 1997, and it is our desire to continue as an active participant within the FTZ.

In 1997, when the Merced FTZ No. 226 was established, the San Joaquin Valley Foreign-Trade Zone Advisory Board (Board) was also established. Mariposa County has actively participated on this Board and will continue to do so in an effort to provide our jurisdiction and residents with the economic development benefits and opportunities that FTZ designation provides.

We understand this means the Grantee, Merced County Board of Supervisors, will be able to apply to the FTZ Board for authority to serve sites within this County based on businesses’ trade related needs. We also note that the Zone will be made available on a uniform basis to companies within Mariposa County in a manner consistent with the legal requirement that each FTZ be operated as a public utility.

Sincerely,

Jim Allen,
Chairman

JA/tg
C c: NCA Ch

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