

DEPARTMENT: HEALTH

BY: C. B. MOSHER, MD, MPH, H.O.
PHONE: 966-3689

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Recommend resolution authorizing Chair to sign letter of support for Senate Bill 836 (Oropeza) to restore the State Public Health Breast Screening program.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

See attached memo.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Not applicable.

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes (X) No Current FY Cost: \$ Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget: \$
Additional Funding Needed: \$ 0
Source:
Internal Transfer
Unanticipated Revenue 4/5's vote
Transfer Between Funds 4/5's vote
Contingency 4/5's vote
( ) General ( ) Other
List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Memo re: Support for California Senate Bill 836
Letter re: Early Cancer Detection
Letter re: Support SB 836 (Oropeza)

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

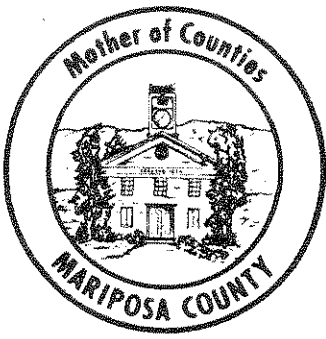
Res. No. 10-16 Ord. No.
Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes:
Absent:
Approved
( ) Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
No Opinion
Comments:

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

CAO: [Signature]



# Mariposa County Public Health Department

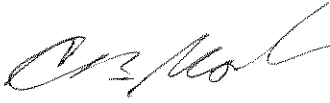
Charles B. Mosher, MD, MPH, County Health Officer

Personal Health Section  
4988 11th St. Post Office Box 5  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
209-966-3689 or 1-800-459-4466  
FAX 209-966-4929

Environmental Health Section  
5100 Bullion St. Post Office Box 5  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
209-966-2220 or 1-888-777-0377  
Fax 209-966-8248  
health@mariposacounty.org

February 19, 2010

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charles B. Mosher, MD, MPH, Health Officer 

SUBJECT: Support for California Senate Bill 836 (Oropeza) – Restoring Early Cancer Detection

**RECOMMEND MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors support California Senate Bill 836 (Oropeza) Restoring Early Cancer Detection.

**BACKGROUND:** Existing state law requires the State Department of Public Health to provide breast cancer and cervical cancer screening services to eligible low-income individuals under a federal grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention breast and cervical cancer early detection program. The Every Woman Counts (EWC) program provides free breast cancer screening to low-income women with an income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. A family of five would have to earn \$51,580 or less annually. Partial funding for this program is provided by federal grant dollars and state tobacco tax revenue.

Partly because of funding issues, in December 2009, the California Department of Public Health announced that as of January 1, 2010, DPH will stop enrolling women into EWC. This freeze will continue at least through July 1, 2010. Once enrollment opens up, screenings will only be available to women age 50 and older.

SB 836, as introduced by Senator Jenny Oropeza, would restore the Every Woman Counts program by:

- Allowing women, regardless of age and with a physician's recommendation to obtain a free screening;
- Allowing women 40 years and older to access the program;
- Appropriating funding. The amount and source of funding has yet to be determined.

See attached letter from Senator Oropeza. Breast cancer kills more than 4,000 California women

every year, and is diagnosed in 25,000 more. Breast cancer is the most common invasive cancer among women. It is the second leading cause of death among women in California. African-American and Latina women are more likely to die from breast cancer due to it being detected and diagnosed at a later, less treatable stage.

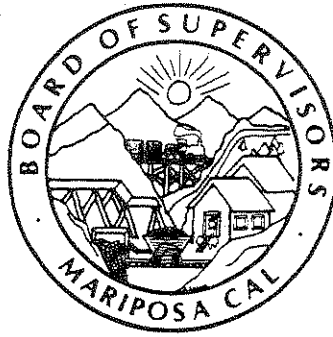
Early detection is vital to provide effective treatment and lengthen survival rates. Getting tested regularly is the best way for women to lower their risk of dying from breast cancer.

I recommend that the Board support SB 836, to restore early breast cancer detection.

/tb/ci

Encl

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors



District 1 ..... BRAD ABORN  
District 2 ..... LYLE TURPIN  
District 3 ..... JANET BIBBY  
District 4 ..... KEVIN CANN  
District 5 ..... JIM ALLEN

RICHARD J. BENSON  
County Administrative Officer

MARGIE WILLIAMS  
Clerk of the Board

P.O. Box 784  
MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA 95338  
(209) 966-3222  
1-800-736-1252  
FAX (209) 966-5147  
[www.mariposacounty.org/board](http://www.mariposacounty.org/board)

March 2, 2010

The Honorable Jenny Oropeza  
State Capitol Building, Room 5114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 836 (Oropeza) – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Oropeza:

On behalf of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to inform you of our support for your bill, Senate Bill 836 (SB 836), Restoring Early Cancer Detection, which would restore the Every Woman Counts program by (1) allowing women, regardless of age and with a physician's recommendation, to obtain a free screening; (2) allowing women 40 years and older to access the program; and (3) appropriating needed funds.

Breast cancer is a deadly and devastating disease. An estimated 4,000 women die from breast cancer in California, with an additional 25,000 diagnosed annually. Beating breast cancer is made easier with early detection.

The state's Every Woman Counts (EWC) program was established to ensure that even the poorest women in California have access to early detection and a fighting chance for survival. The decision made to downscale the program is taking a step backwards.

In 2009, EWC served over 300,000 women. Stopping screenings now will result in higher mortality rates due to the cancer being detected at a later and deadlier stage. Once breast cancer is caught late, it is only a matter of time before death.

Low-income women should not be left out of the equation.

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors supports SB 836 and we look forward to working with you to ensure its passage.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cann  
Chair, Board of Supervisors