RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Consider and adopt a resolution in support of ACA 17 and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter addressed to Assembly Member Leonard in support of ACA 17. ACA 17 will eliminate the transfer of property tax revenue from local governments to the State through the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF). Local governments need to keep more of the money generated by property taxes and have the ability to spend that money as best suits the needs of their communities.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has supported past legislation that benefits the financial well-being of Mariposa County.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not adopt a resolution and/or authorize the Chairman to sign a letter in support of ACA 17. ACA 17 may not receive sufficient support and the property tax revenue taken from local governments by ERAF may not be restored.
TO: FILE
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Letters of Support for ACA 17 and Restoring the $20.2 Million to the County Medical Services Program; Res. 99-172 and 99-173

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on May 25, 1999

ACTION AND VOTE:

Approval of Minutes of 5/4/99 Regular Meeting
BOARD ACTION: Approved

Approval of Consent Agenda (See End of Minutes)
BOARD ACTION: Jeff Green, County Counsel, pulled item 1 – matter to be rescheduled for June 8, 1999. Supervisor Balmain pulled item 10. Supervisor Pickard pulled item 11. (M)Balmain, (S)Stewart, balance of items were approved/Ayes: Balmain, Stewart, Parker, Pickard; Excused: Reilly. Discussion was held relative to item 10 and the various strategies to have the funds returned. Supervisor Pickard requested that Assemblyman House, Senator Monteith, RCRC and CSAC be added to the distribution of the letters for items 10 and 11. (M)Balmain, (S)Stewart, items 10 and 11 were approved with the additional distribution/Ayes: Balmain, Stewart, Parker, Pickard; Excused: Reilly.
May 27, 1999

Honorable Bill Leonard
Assembly Member, Sixty-Third District
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Support of ACA 17

Dear Assembly Member Leonard:

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors supports ACA 17 and adopted a resolution approving a letter of support. ACA 17 will return the much needed financial support to counties by eliminating the transfer of property tax revenue from local governments to the State through the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF).

Local governments are responsible for providing essential life services to the people who reside in their counties. Consequently, it is imperative that local governments have the authority to spend the property tax revenue that their communities generate.

Thank you for sponsoring ACA 17 and for being concerned about the welfare of local governments.

Sincerely,

Bob Pickard
BOB PICKARD
Chairman

BP/mbh

cc: Board of Supervisors
Janet Hogan, County Administrative Officer
Assembly Member George House
Senator Dick Monteith
Regional Council of Rural Counties
California State Association of Counties

bcc: Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board
April 28, 1999

Board of Supervisors Marioposa County
PO Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338

Dear Board Members:

In an effort to increase funding to local governments, I have introduced ACA 17, which will eliminate the transfer of property tax revenue from local governments to the State through the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF).

ACA 17 will reduce the property tax transfers by approximately $370 million in the 2000-01 fiscal year, increasing by nearly $570 million per year over the next six years, with an eventual annual return to local governments in excess of $3.7 billion dollars.

Local governments need to keep more of the money generated through property taxes. I believe that those who run local governments know much better how to spend money from their own communities than do legislators in Sacramento. In the past, the little money that the state has sent back to local governments has come with too many strings attached.

Although the need for this legislation is overwhelming, it can not be successful without the support of government entities such as yours. To that end, I am requesting that you provide me a letter expressing your board’s support of ACA 17. If I can be of any assistance in this matter, please contact me.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

BILL LEONARD

BL:clp