DEPARTMENT: Board  
BY: Supervisor Parker  
PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes___ No_X___)

Adopt Resolution opposing Assembly Bill No. 2586, amending Section 1797.224 of, and to add Section 1797.227 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to emergency medical services.

If this bill were enacted into law it would allow a transfer of a major portion of emergency medical Services (EMS) planning, coordination, and oversight from the counties, to cities and local fire districts within the state.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

None.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

⇒ This proposed bill would indirectly affect Mariposa County.
⇒ If enacted, this bill would result in a fragmentation of the current EMS system design.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

[Blank lines]

CLERK’S USE ONLY
Res. No.: 48-161  
Ord. No.  
Vote - Ayes:  
Noes:  
Absent:  
Approved:  
Denied:  
Abstained:  
Minute Order Attached:  
No 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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:
✓ Recommended  
Not Recommended  
For Policy Determination  
Submitted with Comment  
Returned for Further Action

Comment:  

C.A.O. Initials:  

Action Form Revised 5/92
WHEREAS, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Act of the State of California (Health and Safety Code; sections 1797-1799) was established to promote the development, accessibility, and provision of emergency medical services to the people of California (1797.5); and

WHEREAS, quality emergency medical care demand a cooperative, teamwork approach that provides a seamless delivery of multiple services from a variety of providers including public safety dispatchers, first response agencies, ground and air-ambulance services, hospitals, and third party payors; and

WHEREAS, in order to properly coordinate the development, accessibility, and provision of EMS services among these multiple providers, the EMS Act allows a county, as the lowest level of government, to establish an EMS Agency for the purpose of planning, implementing, and evaluating the EMS system; and

WHEREAS, the California Supreme Court has ruled in the case of County of San Bernardino vs. the City of San Bernardino et al, that, "... in order to plan and implement an EMS system, the local [county or regional EMS] agency must be able to either control or predict, to some degree, the way in which emergency medical services are provided in its jurisdiction;" and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 2586 has been introduced by Assemblywoman Ortiz which would allow for cities and fire districts in the state of California to implement EMS services independent of county planning efforts; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of Assembly Bill 2586 would make effective EMS system planning impossible since a local EMS agency could no longer predict the way in which emergency medical services were provided within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of Assembly Bill 2586 could result in cities and fire districts choosing to provide services only in the high-call-volume, affluent areas, leaving the counties with the financial responsibility for the provision of duplicative EMS services in adjoining less-affluent cities and unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of Assembly Bill 2586 would result in fragmentation of the EMS system causing: dangerous variations in levels of services from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, increase in overall cost, reduction in system efficiency, and loss of overall system coordination among the multiple agencies and jurisdictions that make up the local EMS system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa strongly opposes the enactment of Assembly Bill 2586, and supports the efforts of the California Medical Association, California Association of Emergency Physicians, California Health Care Association, County Supervisors Association of California, Independent Cities Association, California Nurses Association, Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association of California, Emergency Medical Directors Association of California, California Ambulance Association, California Conference of Local Health Officers, Kaiser Permanente, Service Employees International Union, and others, in their attempts to ensure that this bill is defeated.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County this 5th day of May, 1998, by the following vote:

AYES: Reilly, Balmain, Stewart, Parker, Pickard

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None
PATTI A. REILLY, Chair
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

JEFFREY G. GREEN
County Counsel