THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPosa COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on January 16, 1996

ACTION AND VOTE:

10:56 a.m. Dale Wagerman, Consultant;
Discussion of Governor's Budget and Legislative Program for
Mariposa County

BOARD ACTION: Dale Wagerman reviewed their services in working
with the regulatory agencies and with the legislative process;
discussed current legislation which could greatly impact the
County: 1) AB1483, proposed sliding scale for California Youth
Authority (CYA) commitments, and 2) SB760 (Lockyear) which
proposes to transfer CYA commitments back to County; and reviewed
State budget issues. He further suggested that the proposed
goals and priorities be a starting point, with recommendations
received from departments to be added. Discussion was held.
Supervisor Parker requested that the following issues also be
considered: return of funds to the County for fire protection
services and allocation of gasoline tax dollars to the three
counties without cities and consideration of reviewing the pros
and cons of becoming a city/county. (M)Parker, (S)Stewart, Res.
96-21 adopted approving the 1996 legislative goals and priorities
as a platform for the County, with specifics to follow/Ayes:
Unanimous.

cc: File
BOARD MEMBERS:

ADDITIONAL GOALS MAY BE ADDED AFTER MR. WAGERMAN'S MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS 8-10 a.m. ON 16TH.

PROPOSED

1996 LEGISLATIVE GOALS AND PRIORITIES

FOR

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Overview

The first year of the 1995-96 Legislative Session was overshadowed by a bitter and tumultuous political battle over control of the State Assembly. The result of the turmoil was that the Legislature produced little substantial policy.¹ The outlook for the second half of the Session is that the battle for control of the Assembly will continue, further polarizing the Legislature.

One positive characteristic of the 1995 Session was that it did not significantly impact county government relative to the past five years. The state budget that was eventually enacted by the Legislature did not balance state financial obligations on the backs of California's counties. Nevertheless, California's counties continue to feel the burden of previous years' property tax shifts, state mandates, and less fiscal resources and administrative flexibility.

Slow economic growth and fewer fiscal resources continue to put Mariposa County in the position of making difficult choices concerning the quantity and quality of services it can provide. In addition the Federal Government shutdown and Yosemite's closure has significantly

¹ This reference is not specified in the text.
impacted the county's economy. In response, county officials must continue to formulate and implement new and creative strategies in order to meet increasing demand for government services with limited amounts of resources. They must also continue to seek State/Federal recognition of the county’s economic emergency. As a result of these conditions, ideas toward government restructuring must continue to be moved to the forefront of the legislative debate in light of continuing fiscal difficulties.

**General Goals**

The focus of Mariposa County's 1996 Legislative Platform must be to continue to guard against attempts by the Legislative and/or Executive branches of state government that encroach upon county revenue sources. In addition, measures must be taken to decrease state program mandates and increase the amount of input and control county officials and citizens have over locally administered state programs.

Mariposa County’s 1996 legislative/regulatory goals:

* Oppose attempts by the Legislative and/or Executive Branches that decrease or restrict county revenue sources.

* Support measures that streamline administrative procedures and decrease costs associated with the County’s compliance with state regulations.
* Search for additional revenue sources to fund county services.

* Maximize county options and flexibility in the administration of state-mandated programs.

* Support measures that foster more equitable distribution of local tax revenues among all local government agencies.

* Seek the elimination or modification of state required maintenance-of-effort (MOE) requirements which constrain Mariposa County's financial flexibility.

* Modify actions by state administrative agencies which negatively impact Mariposa County.

* Work with Mariposa County's legislative delegation to support efforts that foster greater understanding of the concerns of rural counties.

* Identify and support measures and legislation that maximizes Mariposa County's economic viability while, at the same time, maintaining the County's high quality of life.
Identify and support measurers to assist Mariposa County.