MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: MIKE EDWARDS, Public Works Director

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: SB 848 (Kopp)

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on February 27, 1996

ACTION AND VOTE:

Public Presentations: For Non-Timed Agenda Items and for Items Not on the Agenda
- Mike Edwards, Public Works Director, advised of an off-agenda item relative to SB 848 (Kopp), vehicle speed limits.
  (M) Parker, (S) Stewart, Board waived its rules requiring 72 hours agenda notice to consider this matter, finding this matter was not known at the time the agenda was prepared and action may be taken by the legislature prior to the next Board meeting and this matter is of vital importance to Mariposa County/Ayes: Unanimous. Discussion was held, and matter was continued for the following hearing to be opened.

Following further discussion, (M) Stewart, (S) Parker, Res. 96-70 adopted supporting SB 848 which provides a method for adjusting local speed limits to that of federal standards, with further direction given that the letter of support also be distributed to CSAC, RCRC and our legislative representatives and include a statement that many of our local roads are not designed to be safe at a speed of 55 mph/Ayes: Balmain, Reilly, Stewart, Parker; Noes: Taber.

cc: File
February 27, 1996

The Honorable Assemblyman Charles Poochigian
Chair, Appropriations Committee
State Capitol Room 5160
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 848 (Kopp)
Vehicles: Speed Limits
SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Poochigian:

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors today voted to support SB 848 by Senator Quentin Kopp. This bill, which is currently moving through the Assembly, is of vital importance to Mariposa and other rural counties.

This bill was recently amended to delay the effective date of the increase in the speed limit of multilane highways until January 1, 1997, unless engineering and traffic study (ETS) is completed to support a lower speed. In addition, two-lane undivided highways will remain at 55 mph, unless an ETS is completed to support a higher speed.

If enacted into law, SB 848 would provide several important benefits to motorists and local governments. First, it will ensure a continual safety of motorists by maintaining safe speed limits on rural, two-lane highways. Speed limits could be raised only after an ETS is completed to justify an increase. Most of our local roads are not designed to be safe at a speed of 55 mph. Second, the bill will provide substantial cost savings to local jurisdictions by alleviating the need to perform ETS's on a significant portion of local highways. Performing numerous ETS's to maintain safe limits would significantly impact the budgets of small counties.

SB 848 provides a sound and rational method of adjusting local speed limits to that of federal standards. The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, therefore requests your support for this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Doug Balmain, Chair

dp

cc: Michael D. Edwards, Public Works Director
    Ed Johnson, Executive Director, LTC
    Dale Wagerman & Associates
    California State Association of Counties
    Regional Council of Rural Counties
    Senator Dick Monteith
    Assemblyman George House