

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No: 09 – 253

- a. Adopt Resolution opposing the State seizure of local tax funds; and)
- b. Authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to forward the Resolution to the Governor, State legislators and to the California State Association of Counties.)

WHEREAS, the current economic crisis has placed counties under incredible financial pressure and caused county officials to reopen already adopted budgets to layoff county workers, slash programs, and reduce services to keep spending in line with declining revenues; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 the voters by an 84% vote margin adopted substantial constitutional protections for local revenues, but the legislature can still “borrow” local property taxes to fund the State budget; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2009 the State’s Department of Finance announced it had proposed to the Governor that the State “borrow” over \$2 billion in local property taxes from cities, counties and special districts to balance the State budget, causing deeper cuts in local public safety and other vital services; and

WHEREAS, in the past the Governor has called such “borrowing” proposals fiscally irresponsible because the State will find it virtually impossible to repay and it would only deepen the State’s structural deficit, preventing the State from balancing its budget; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is currently considering hundreds of bills, many of which would impose new costs on local governments that can neither be afforded nor sustained in this economic climate; and

WHEREAS, State agencies are imposing, or considering, hundreds of regulations imposing unfunded mandates on local governments without regard to how local agencies will be able to comply with these mandates while meeting their other responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the County of Monterey simply cannot sustain the loss of any more property tax funds or to be charged with any more State mandates, as they will only deepen the financial challenge facing our County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors does hereby declare that the County of Monterey is experiencing a severe financial hardship due to the following factors:

- 1) The State government’s ongoing seizure of County property tax funds since the early 1990s to fund the State budget;

- 2) The continued adoption of unfunded mandates by the State legislature and State agencies without any consideration for the economic hardships such mandates impose on counties and their residents; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of Supervisors strongly and unconditionally opposes the May 5, 2009 proposal of the State Department of Finance and any other State government proposals to borrow or seize any additional local funds, including the property tax, redevelopment tax increment, and the County's share of the Proposition 42 transportation sales tax; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of Supervisors strongly urges the State legislature and Governor to suspend the enactment of any new mandates on local governments until such time as the economy has recovered and urges the State to provide complete funding for all existing and any new mandates; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to send copies of this resolution to the Governor, our state senator(s), our state assembly member(s) and the California State Association of Counties.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 19th day of May, 2009, upon motion of Supervisor Potter, seconded by Supervisor Armenta, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Armenta, Salinas, Calcagno, Parker, Potter

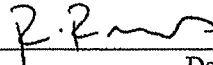
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 74 for the meeting on May 19, 2009.

Dated: May 20, 2009

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By 
Deputy