

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
1025 Escobar St., 4th floor
Martinez, California 94553

John Gioia, 1st District
Candace Andersen, 2nd District
Diane Burgis, 3rd District
Ken Carlson, 4th District
Shanelle Scales-Preston, 5th District

Contra Costa County



Monica Nino
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 655-2075

April 15, 2026

The Honorable Nick Schultz
Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1607 (Gonzalez) –Emergency medical services. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Schultz:

As Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County’s support for AB 1607, which would remove the sunset on the “Maddy” Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Funds, ensuring access to critical, life-saving emergency health care.

The Maddy Fund is a county-by-county opt-in program, funded through a \$2 fee for every \$10 of a fine on all crimes, penalties, or forfeitures imposed by the courts. The Maddy EMS Fund is used to reimburse physicians and hospitals who treat uninsured patients in the emergency departments, as well as provide funds for EMS purposes. In addition, 15% of the funds collected are allocated to the “Richie’s Fund,” which supports pediatric trauma centers.

Under state and federal law, emergency departments care for patients regardless of their health care coverage status—patients are still responsible for paying for their care. In 2024, 5.9% of Californians were uninsured, but the proportion of uninsured patients who seek care is much higher. Reports estimate that 18% of the population served in California emergency departments are uninsured.

If an uninsured patient is unable to pay for their care, a hospital or physician may submit for reimbursement to their respective county's “Maddy” fund. While this funding is not equal to the overall cost of care, it allows emergency departments to continue to remain open and offer services.

The demand on emergency departments is already high and will continue to increase as millions of vulnerable Californians lose access to health insurance due to H.R. 1. This massive loss in coverage is anticipated to raise the proportion of uninsured to an estimated 18% statewide, with a volume of up to 32% uninsured at the most impacted facilities.

With the Maddy Fund sunseting in 2027, this will lead to a reduction in emergency physicians' staffing. Fewer emergency physicians per shift contribute to longer wait times and worsen access to care for all patients with emergencies.

AB 1607 will help address this issue by removing the existing sunsets on the Maddy Fund, ensuring financial assistance is available for our essential emergency health care providers.

For these reasons, Contra Costa County supports AB 1607 and respectfully requests your support for this effort.

Sincerely,



DIANE BURGIS

Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
Dr. Grant Colfax, Director of Health Services
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer

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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Mike A. Gipson
Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation
1020 N Street, Room 167A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1768 (Bryan): Transactions and use taxes: Counties of Contra Costa and Los Angeles. – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Gipson:

On behalf of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County's support for AB 1768, authored by Assemblymember Bryan. This bill would modify the statutory cap on transactions and use taxes for Los Angeles and Contra Costa Counties as a result of unique fiscal pressures being experienced. In Contra Costa County, this bill would allow the electorate to adopt a five-year, 0.625% general purpose transactions and use tax, subject to certain limitations and express voter approval requirements.

The proposed legislation would not alter the existing requirement that any new or additional transactions and use tax be submitted to the voters for approval. A measure will be placed before the voters on the June 2026 ballot. Accordingly, expeditious consideration of this proposal is respectfully requested.

This proposal would provide Contra Costa County with an additional tool needed to generate general purpose funding to support critical services for a five-year period. This need is urgent and emerging as a result of the sudden changes in federal support and the addition of new, unfunded responsibilities resulting from H.R. 1 (Pub. L. No. 119-21, 139 Stat. 1234). These new changes in the federal, state, and local relationship will result in the loss of health care and food security programs for millions of vulnerable Californians, while shifting new costs and requirements to local governments.

Counties like ours—and the people we serve—are particularly impacted by these changes because of the services that we provide. Contra Costa operates a public hospital and nine community clinics, in addition to performing eligibility work and other providing other essential safety net services. Unless we are able to act locally, the impact of these federal actions will have damaging consequences for our community.

The County intends to thoughtfully balance its responsibilities as a fiduciary of taxpayer dollars and the provider of critical services. This five-year window will allow the County to respond to these changes in a manner that is thoughtful, responsible, and endeavors to reduce the harm caused by these federal policy changes on our community.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your support for this legislation to help preserve critical programs by providing our community with tools to fund County services such as health care and food security. We commend your leadership during such trying times and greatly appreciate our ongoing partnership with the State as we navigate these challenges together on behalf of our constituents.

Sincerely,



DIANE BURGIS
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
Jami Morritt, Chief Assistant Clerk of the Board
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer

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April 15, 2026

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
Chair, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy
1020 N Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1813 (Ward) – Community Renewable Energy Program Act. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Petrie-Norris:

As Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County's support for AB 1813 (Ward), the Community Renewable Energy Program Act. This bill will strengthen the initial framework for California's community solar and storage program envisioned under AB 2316 (Chapter 350, Statutes of 2022). This bill builds on the Legislature's past efforts to provide the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with necessary resources to implement and oversee the community renewable energy program.

Californians are facing rising electricity rates, making it more challenging to add renewable generation and storage to meet our State's ambitious clean energy goals and reliability needs. Support is needed to help with the transition and to help ensure that underserved communities see relief on their utility bills.

A robust, sustainable community solar and storage program can play a significant role in meeting these goals. Recent studies suggest that community solar and storage can produce savings to cover its costs, while also delivering reliability and emissions benefits to all Californians. When properly implemented, every ratepayer will benefit, while low-income households will see more substantial bill savings.

AB 1813 will help support the following:

- Provides flexibility for homebuilders and developers to meet Title 24 compliance
- Expands access to community renewables and gets projects online quickly while addressing ratepayer impacts
- Make our transmission and distribution system more effective and efficient
- Make California more self-sufficient in electricity generation
- Reduce reliance on natural gas, thus lowering emissions
- Provide sufficient guardrails to ensure this important distributed energy resource performs as intended.

In summary, AB 1813 presents a significant opportunity to guarantee everyone has access to the benefits of distributed clean energy by providing direct benefits to subscribers and passing along savings when Californians need relief the most, especially during the hottest months when energy usage and costs are at their highest. The bill addresses California's energy equity challenges head on, particularly for those most underserved, while also relying on a compensation structure that is sensitive to the dynamic needs of the state's electricity grid. It would do this while providing a valuable tool for achieving the state's ambitious energy efficiency and climate change goals, allowing farmers to host community solar projects and keep land in family hands, all while creating high-quality and competitive jobs in California.

For these reasons, Contra Costa County supports AB 1813. Thank you for your leadership on clean energy and affordability.

Sincerely,



DIANE BURGIS

Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
John Kopchick, Director of Conservation & Development
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer

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April 23, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Committee on Insurance
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2201 (Boerner) – Medi-Cal: eligibility redetermination. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

As Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County's support for AB 2201 (Boerner), which would reinstate four proven eligibility and renewal strategies to streamline Medi-Cal renewal processing and minimize wrongful terminations for low-income Californians.

With the implementation of H.R. 1 eligibility changes, including new work requirements for Medi-Cal participation and increased frequency of renewals from annual to every 6 months, California is bracing for 1.8 to 3 million Californians to lose Medi-Cal coverage due to paperwork and other administrative barriers. Counties are deeply invested in preventing Medi-Cal coverage losses because of the wide ranging consequences to low-income Californians – to those with behavioral health needs, to individuals experiencing homelessness, to justice involved individuals. Additionally, there are serious impacts to health equity, county indigent services, and public hospitals. It is important that California takes proactive steps to mitigate these impacts.

Counties have experience navigating large-scale eligibility transitions. During the Medi-Cal unwinding process in 2023, California implemented federal renewal streamlining strategies that reduced procedural terminations and doubled the automatic renewal rate. At the height of the unwinding, 92% of statewide Medi-Cal disenrollments were for procedural or "paperwork" reasons. When the strategies ended on June 30, 2025, automatic renewal success was cut in half, resulting in hundreds of thousands of renewals that county workers must manually process each month. This workload is expected to grow further starting January 1, 2027, when counties must conduct renewals twice a year.

AB 2201 would reinstate four proven Medi-Cal renewal streamlining strategies:

- Auto-verification of zero income;
- Auto-verification of income at or below 100% of FPL;
- Auto-verification of stable income and assets; and
- Streamlining Asset Verification System (AVS) workflows.

These strategies would help reduce county workloads, minimize wrongful terminations, and preserve staff capacity for complex cases, protecting thousands of Californians from losing their coverage.

AB 2201 would also reduce administrative and downstream healthcare cost savings to the state and counties resulting from unnecessary “churn” of disenrollment and reenrollment. A 2015 article published in Health Affairs estimated the administrative cost of a single disenrollment and reenrollment at \$400-\$600. Individuals who lose and regain coverage also tend to incur higher costs due to delayed treatment. Maintaining continuous coverage can help mitigate avoidable healthcare costs and reduces the pressures on county indigent care programs.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 2201 and respectfully request your support for this legislation.

Sincerely,



DIANE BURGIS

Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
Dr. Grant Colfax, Director of Contra Costa Health Services
Dr. Marla Stuart, Director of Employment and Human Services
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer

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Clerk of the Board
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April 20, 2026

The Honorable Assemblymember Juan Carrillo
Chair, Assembly Committee on Local Government
1020 N Street, Room 157
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2224 (Hadwick) County Recorders: fees. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Carrillo:

As Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County's support for AB 2224, a bill related to County Recorder services and modernization. The bill ensures electronic recording throughout California for all documents, and it standardizes the fee structure to promote greater clarity to the public, expedite the recording process, and decrease the frequency of recording rejections.

Throughout the state, County Recorders are a fee-for-service office. Clerk Recorder offices play a fundamental role, serving as the custodian of vital records, recorded land documents, and other legal documents that support the integrity of property ownership, and legal transactions in California. These documents, and the efficiency of County Recorder operations, are critical to the real estate industry and economy.

Legislative statutes govern Recorder office structures and fee authority to ensure stable, cost recovery funding. Currently, Government Code 27361 authorizes County Recorders to charge a fee maximum of \$10 for the first page of a document, and \$3 for every additional page – a fee that was codified in 2009 and implemented 15 years ago in January 2010. As fee-for-service departments, the Recorder can only charge for the services provided and are not to collect more than the cost of providing those services to the public.

AB 2224 modernizes the allowable base recording fee, which will help advance electronic recording and AB 2224 also eliminates outdated fees that are no longer necessary due to technological advances. The bill continues to require fees collected to be dedicated to, and solely utilized for, the county Recorder's office, and the statutory language specifically articulates that the base fee cannot exceed the cost of providing the recording services. Additionally, the bill will require all 58 counties in California to transition to a modern electronic recording model. The mandated transition to electronic recording will help ensure that offices throughout the state are incorporating modern technologies and operating efficiently.

With this transition, County Recorders are prepared to eliminate the outdated paper-based fees found in the statute, which helps advance a consistent fee structure across all counties. The ability

to relinquish these obsolete fees will advance the transition towards a sustainable, modernized base recording fee that supports the technology necessary to serve the public effectively.

For these reasons, Contra Costa County supports AB 2224, and respectfully requests your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



DIANE BURGIS

Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
Kristin Connelly, Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer

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April 16, 2026

The Honorable Lisa Calderon
Chair, Assembly Committee on Insurance
1020 N Street, Room 369
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2724 (Bauer-Kahan) – Catastrophe modeling: distressed areas. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Calderon:

As Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County's support for AB 2724 (Bauer-Kahan), which would require the Insurance Commissioner to change the process for designating distressed areas under the Catastrophe Modeling regulations. This proposed change would help ensure that many communities affected by high insurance prices and the lack of coverage can now be included in the process for developing these regulations.

California continues to experience increasingly frequent and severe wildfires, which has destabilized the private home insurance market and left many homeowners unable to secure or maintain coverage. This challenge is especially acute in communities located in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), many of which are in Contra Costa County.

Although our communities face elevated wildfire risk and widespread non-renewals, many do not qualify as "distressed areas" under current regulations because only certain portions of a given ZIP code border wildlands. As a result, insurers are not incentivized to write policies in these areas, and homeowners are often forced onto the FAIR Plan. The FAIR Plan is expensive, provides limited coverage, and was never intended to insure this volume of high-risk homes.

Homeowners' inability to secure market-rate insurance is one of the top concerns that our offices hear in our local communities. Families are deeply distressed about their wildfire risk and the possibility of being unable to protect both their safety and their most significant financial asset—their home.

To address these concerns, AB 2724 codifies regular, ongoing reviews of distressed areas by the Department of Insurance, ensuring that outdated designations do not continue to exclude at-risk communities. It will also establish a public process so that WUI homeowners—who are directly affected by wildfire exposure and non-renewals—can provide input and ensure that the Department has comprehensive, community-level information when determining distressed areas. Importantly, the bill would improve transparency and communication through regular reporting

to the Legislative Insurance Committees, helping the Legislature monitor implementation and understand evolving wildfire-insurance dynamics.

These are meaningful, data-informed, and non-disruptive changes that will allow the state to more accurately identify communities in need—without modifying the Sustainable Insurance Strategy (SIS) framework itself.

For Contra Costa County, where many neighborhoods border rolling hills and wooded open space, AB 2724 will ensure our risk profile is reflected in the state's process and that our residents have an opportunity to be heard. Thank you for your leadership to help ensure access to insurance coverage for homeowners.

Sincerely,



DIANE BURGIS
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer

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April 15, 2026

Contra Costa County



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The Honorable Jerry McNerney
Chair, Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee
State Capitol, Room 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1408 (Arreguín) – Contra Costa Transportation Authority: transactions and use tax. – SUPPORT

Dear Senator McNerney:

As Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our County's support for SB 1408 (Arreguín), which authorizes the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) to seek voter approval for a local transactions and use tax.

Since 1988, the CCTA has served as an effective steward of voter-approved funds, managing transportation sales tax programs and countywide transportation planning. Through the previously approved Measures C and J, the CCTA has demonstrated a proven track record of delivering major projects that reduce commute times, boost the local economy, and implement sustainable transportation solutions. Despite these successes, we continue to face persistent transportation challenges. Many residents endure long commutes and heavy congestion on major corridors. It remains difficult for many, especially seniors, students, and low-income individuals, to move freely and safely throughout the county and region.

SB 1408 is a critical mechanism for ensuring that we can continue to plan, fund, and implement the transportation projects and programs our residents need throughout the entire county. This legislation is essential for creating a safer, connected, and more accessible system for everyone.

For these reasons, Contra Costa County supports SB 1408. Thank you for your leadership to ensure that our region has access to tools that help grow our regional economy for everyone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diane Burgis".

DIANE BURGIS
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Monica Nino, County Administrator
John Kopchik, Director of Conservation & Development
Warren Lai, Director of Public Works
Michelle Rubalcava & Geoff Neill, Nielsen Merksamer