

Board of Supervisors COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER District One

PETE VANDER POEL District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN District Three

EDDIE VALERO District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND District Five

AGENDA DATE: August 11, 2020

Public Hearing Required Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk Published Notice Required	Yes □ N/A ⊠ Yes □ N/A ⊠ Yes □ N/A ⊠
Advertised Published Notice	Yes N/A
Meet & Confer Required	Yes N/A
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes 🖾 N/A 🗍
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes 🗌 N/A 🖾
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes 🗌 N/A 🖂
Agreements are attached and signa	ture line for Chairman is marked with
tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes 🗌 N/A 🖂
CONTACT PERSON: Tammie Weyker-Adkins, MPA PHONE: 559.636.5000	

<u>SUBJECT</u>: Approve a letter of opposition in regards to AB 660 (Levine).

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Approve a letter of opposition to AB 660 (Levine) in regards to the restriction of contact tracing to public health entities and limiting of contact tracing data sharing between agencies.

SUMMARY:

Assembly Bill 660, introduced by Assembly Member Levine, would restrict law enforcement officials from assisting public health entities with contact tracing. Additionally, any data collected, received, or prepared for purposes of contract tracing could not be shared with any entity other than a public health entity.

Existing law makes an allowance for contracts entered into for services related to contract tracing. Further, said contractor may share personal information obtained via a contact tracing application or service only for an authorized purpose after conspicuously notifying a user of the purpose for which that information may be used. An authorized purpose may mean to either comply with a warrant or subpoena, or to facilitate a public health provider's effort to mitigate the spread of a communicable disease.

AB 660 would drastically affect Tulare County and the efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19 through contract tracing. A well-developed and coordinated effort between several agencies, thereby supplementing public health staffing, has meant that Tulare County has had much success in contract tracing though one of the most pandemic-impacted counties. A ban on this multi-agency coordinated effort

SUBJECT:Approve a letter of opposition for AB 660 (Levine)DATE:August 11, 2020

would be devastating to our public health efforts.

Further, restricting vital information sharing from contact tracing efforts to our law enforcement, fire, and paramedic partners would mean endangering them as they seek to provide life-saving service to our public during this pandemic. The potential consequences would put the lives of our front-line and essential workers at severe risk.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no Net County Cost to the General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

Approve sending a letter of opposition to AB 660 (Levine) is linked to the Quality of Life initiative – Promote public health and welfare, educational opportunities, natural resource management and continued improvement of environmental quality.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

<u>/s/ Tammie Weyker-Adkins</u> Tammie Weyker-Adkins Chief of Staff

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) Letter of Opposition

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE A LETTER OF OPPOSITION TO AB 660 (LEVINE)

Resolution No. _____ Agreement No. _____

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR ______, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ______, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD ______ ____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

> ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY:

Deputy Clerk

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Approved a letter of opposition to AB 660 (Levine) in regards to restriction of contact tracing to public health entities and the limiting of contact tracing data sharing between agencies.



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Kuyler Crocker District One

Pete Vander Poel District Two

Amy Shuklian District Three

Eddie Valero District Four

Dennis Townsend District Five

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BOARD STAFF *Tammie Weyker-Adkins, Chief of Staff*

Samantha Ferrer Alicia Balderas

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CLERK OF THE BOARD

Melinda Benton, Chief Clerk

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Administration Bldg. 2800 West Burrel Visalia, CA 93291

TEL: (559) 636-5000 FAX: (559) 733-6898

County of Tulare

August 4, 2020

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair Senate Judiciary Committee State Capitol, Room 2187 Sacramento, CA 95814

Submittal via Committee Portal: https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/

Dear Chairwoman Jackson:

The Tulare County Board of Supervisors expresses our firm opposition to AB 660, the verbiage change of which would affect the success of our contact tracing efforts and significantly decrease the safety of our front-line workers, including fire, EMS, and police personnel, now and in future pandemics.

Tulare County does not have public health staffing sufficient to engage the level of rapid contact tracing required for a pandemic, such as the one we find ourselves in at this time. To supplement, Tulare County Public Health Branch has reached out to investigators in our District Attorney's office, who are already familiar with the investigative process, operating in an emergency operations disaster environment, the collaborative environment needed to be successful, and complying with confidentiality rules and regulations.

Rural counties such as Tulare County often are not able to adequately staff public health teams outside of disaster emergencies and to be able to quickly find eligible and knowledgeable public health personnel to staff a disaster situation is often not possible.

As you know, Tulare County has been incredibly impacted by this pandemic. Without the partnerships and information sharing that is in place through our public health department operations center and County emergency operations center, Tulare County would be even more impacted with our public safety professionals being exposed at a higher rate and less of an ability to reach those community members who may have had exposures. This is unacceptable for our community.

Emergency response does not need legislative strings attached. We urge you not to advance this legislation.

Respectfully,

Pete Vander Poel, Chair Tulare County Board of Supervisors **Amy Shuklian, Vice Chair** Tulare County Board of Supervisors **Kuyler Crocker, District 1** Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Eddie Valero, District 4 Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Dennis Townsend, District 5 Tulare County Board of Supervisors

cc: Tulare County Delegation Paul Yoder, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange Jason T. Britt, Tulare County CAO