



COUNTY OF EL DORADO, CALIFORNIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject:  COUNTY LEGISLATIVE POLICY	Policy Number A-4	Page Number: 1 of 3
	Date Adopted: 09/10/1991	Revised Date:

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Supervisors is generally in agreement with supporting, through letters and testimony, state legislation that specifically affects El Dorado County. Support is to be given officially, and judiciously. Before initiating correspondence with legislators and/or committee staff, on legislation or issues which have not been acted on by the Board of Supervisors, such correspondence should be discussed with the Chief Administrative Officer. While county personnel may offer their expertise at legislative committee hearings it should be done both sparingly, and generally on legislation/issues upon which the BOS has adopted a position.

POLICY:

It is the general position of the County that: 1) support should not be over-used, in that to the degree the county is seen as supporting virtually everything, that support subsequently devalued on critical issues, 2) support should generally be positive, and opposing legislation should be confined to circumstances wherein the county's interests would be severely effected, and 3) support should be given on bills which specifically, rather than generally, affect the County.

PROCEDURE:

Bills identified for the Board's action are brought in open session, as an agenda item. They can be brought to the GAO's attention by Board members (and subsequently returned for the Board's action), by Staff Analysts, or by individual department representatives.

A. Bill Identification

1. Board members of ten identify legislation and ask the CEO to research and provide recommendations to the SOS on specific bills. When a bill is identified the



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appropriate Analyst will notify the affected departments for comment. Similarly, if a bill is identified by the CAO, the Administrative Staff will contact the appropriate department for comment before the CAO places the item on the agenda.

2. Administration staff often identify bills. The CAO, Staff analysts or the Legislative Liaison often identify bills through legislative contacts. In these cases the relevant analyst will request the appropriate department to offer their expertise and recommendations.
3. Individual department staff often identify, through their professional Associations, legislation which should be brought to the CAO and BOS' attention for action. Any background data that can be identified as relevant should be given to the department's Administrative Analyst.

B. Correspondence

1. Correspondence from department level personnel to legislators, or committee staff, should be discussed in advance with the Chief Administrative officer. Inappropriate correspondence with a legislator, or staff member, can possible have a negative effect far beyond the specific issue, and can potentially effect the County's entire legislative agenda. A copy of all correspondence with members of the administration, or legislature, concerning legislation, should be provided to the CAO.

C. Testimony

1. Offering testimony, in support/opposition to specific pieces of legislation, should only be undertaken after the BOS has adopted a position on that legislation.



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2. Before offering expert testimony on topics and issues of general concern, the proposed testimony will be discussed with the CAO to assure it is generally consistent with the County's overall interests.

**Primary Department:** All Departments

**References:** None