

From CSAC President Mike McGowan:

Somebody told me the other day that when it comes to working with the State, you are either at the table or you're on the menu! Fortunately, with this Governor, we have been at the table from Day One.

I write to remind you of the upcoming Board of Directors meeting (10:00am, Thursday, February 23) and to encourage you to attend the meeting. If you cannot attend personally, telephonic participation will be available. There are many serious issues facing California and our counties and a number of them will be discussed on February 23: realignment, pension reform, and redevelopment are just three of the topics to be discussed.

One of the most important items we will work through is the Association's position on the Governor's Initiative. I know that some do not like the measure because it would raise taxes. I don't like that either. I didn't like cod liver oil when my Mother gave it to me, but it cured my illness. We need to get this state back on its feet - when the state is successful, our counties are successful. If the state has a cold, we sneeze. I can stomach the fact that the taxes are temporary, and about half of what we supported last spring with SCA 1X - because we also get the guarantee of funding for realignment and protection of those programs against future encroachment.

And, speaking about being at the table, the Governor has pledged to us that if his measure fails he will come right back and try again for the guarantees and protections we need, even if that means calling a special election. If we are not standing with him now, how can we expect him to follow through on that pledge?

Finally, I encourage you to think about what is good for our Association as a whole. I know it is difficult at times to step out of your role as a supervisor and into your role as a member of the Board of Directors of the Association - that often times requires a somewhat different mindset. But one thing is for sure - we will remain strong and our voice will continue to be heard. With your support, CSAC has one of the loudest voices in local government.

I hope to see you on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

EL DORADO COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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