



COUNTY OF EL DORADO, CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject: COUNTY LEGISLATIVE POLICY	Policy Number: A-4	Page Number: 1 of 4
	Date-Originally Adopted: 09/10/1991	Effective-Last Revised Date: 09/10/199108/18/2026

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to enable the Board of Supervisors and Departments to support, oppose, or provide comment, through letters and/or testimony, on federal and state legislation that specifically affects could significantly impact El Dorado County's finances and/or programs. This policy ensures that El Dorado County's legislative advocacy is consistent in messaging, made in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Office, and performed according to the Board of Supervisors' Federal and State Legislative Priorities.

II. POLICY

- A. In general, the County seeks to preserve local discretion over programs and funding, maximize federal and state funding, oppose unfunded mandates and maintenance of effort requirements, and oppose any further erosion of the County's revenue base.
- B. Every two years and in conjunction with the two-year State legislative calendar, the Chief Administrative Office will present proposed Federal and State Legislative Priorities (Priorities) to the Board for approval. The Board-adopted Priorities are intended to guide positions and decisions on federal and state legislation and agency regulations given by the Board and Department Heads. The Priorities are presented to the Board by December 31 (every two-years) in non-election years; and by January 31 in election years (every two-years). This ensures that the new Board members in office have a chance to vote.
- C. The Chief Administrative Office or Department Heads, after consulting with the Chief Administrative Office, may send position letters or comments on state and federal legislation and agency regulations:
 - a. Without returning to the Board, if the position letters or comments are in line with the Board-adopted Priorities.
 - b. After returning to the Board, if the position letters or comments fall outside of the Board-adopted Priorities. Position letters or comments must be sponsored by two Board members.
- D. Positions on federal or state legislation shall be made via official letters on Board of Supervisors' or Department letterhead based on Chief Administrative Office determination.
- E. Correspondence from Department Heads to legislators, or committee staff, should be discussed in advance with the Chief Administrative Office and consistent with Legislative Priorities. Inappropriate correspondence with a legislator or staff member could have a negative effect far beyond the specific issue and could potentially affect the County's entire legislative agenda. A copy of all correspondence



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with members of the administration or legislature, concerning legislation, should be provided to the Chief Administrative Office.

F. Positions on voter-initiated legislation such as propositions or local measures should be avoided unless the voter-initiated legislation directly and significantly impacts County programs and/or funding. Official positions on voter-initiated legislation shall only be adopted at an open and public meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

G. ~~Support~~ Positions on legislation ~~is~~are to be given officially and judiciously. Support ~~or opposition~~ should not be over-used, in that to the degree the county is seen as supporting ~~or opposing~~ virtually everything, ~~support the County position~~ is subsequently devalued on critical issues. ~~Support Positions on legislation~~ should be given on ~~bills-legislation~~ which specifically, rather than generally, affect the County.

H. Positions on legislative bills are made on the current version of the bill based on the date of the letter. If a position is given and the bill is later amended, the Chief Administrative Office will review the amendments and determine if the County's position should be updated and/or rescinded.

A.—

~~B. 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 testimony before the California Legislature or Federal or State regulatory agencies or commissions, their expertise at legislative committee hearings it should be done both sparingly, and generally on legislation/issues upon which the BOS County has adopted a position. Testimony must be consistent with the County's Priorities. Before offering expert testimony on topics and issues of general concern, the proposed testimony will be discussed with the Chief Administrative Office to assure it is generally consistent with the County's overall interests.~~

I.—

C.—

~~D. Support should generally be positive, and opposing legislation should be confined to circumstances wherein the county's interests would be severely affected.~~

E.—

F.—

G. III. — PROCEDURE

H.—



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~~I. Bills identified for the Board's action shall be discussed and acted upon in open session. They~~ Legislation can be brought to the Chief Administrative Office's attention by Board members ~~(and subsequently returned for the Board's action)~~ or by individual department representatives.

~~J. —~~

~~K. Board members may identify legislation and ask the CAO to research and provide recommendations to the Board on specific bills. When a bill is identified the appropriate Analyst will notify the affected departments for comment. Similarly, if a bill is identified by the CAO, the Chief Administrative Office Staff will contact the appropriate department for comment before the CAO places the item on the agenda.~~

~~L. —~~

~~M. Staff may identify bills through legislative contacts. In these cases the relevant analyst will request the appropriate department to offer their expertise and recommendations.~~

~~N. —~~

~~J. Individual department staff may identify, through their professional associations, legislation which should be brought to the CAO and Board's attention for action. Any background data that can be identified as relevant should be given to the department's Administrative Analyst~~ Chief Administrative Office.

~~K. County employees acting in their official capacity should not express a position (e.g., support, opposition, concerns) on legislation or policy matters contrary to the County's official position. County employees should contact the Chief Administrative Office with questions in this area.~~

~~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 could have a negative effect far beyond the specific issue, and could potentially affect 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.~~

~~Testimony:~~

~~Testimony by non-elected Department Heads, 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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~~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.~~

~~IVII.~~ RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

All

~~IV.~~ DATES (ADOPTED, REVISED, NEXT REVIEW)~~DATES ISSUED AND REVISED; SUNSET DATES:~~

Issue-Date <u>Originally Adopted:</u>	09/10/1991	Sunset-Review-Date:	n/a
Last Revision-Date:	01/25/2022 <u>08/18/2026</u>	Sunset-Next Review Date:	01/25/2026 <u>08/18/2030</u>