

# COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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**KIM DAWSON**  
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April 29, 2025

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

RE: AB 1430 (Bennett) County Recorders: fee for services – SUPPORT

Chair Carrillo and Members of the Committee on Local Government:

On behalf of El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in support of AB 1430 (Bennett), a bill related to County Recorder services. Our organization respectfully requests your support in stabilizing the statutory fee for document recording to ensure timely service to home buyers, sellers, and the real estate industry.

The legally established base fee for recording and indexing every instrument, paper or notice required or permitted by law at the County Recorder's office was last updated in June 2010. When established, that fee was intended as a fee for service with no additional expense to a county's net county cost. The base recording fee has not been aligned to inflationary factors or the state's minimum wage increases, creating significant budget challenges for counties.

Budgetary requirements to maintain the recording function are now being augmented from county general funds and, thus, competing with funding required for other essential public services like public safety, public health, and general county administration.

AB 1430 updates the fee a County Recorder may charge for recording the first page of a document from \$10 to \$15 and additional pages from \$3 to \$4. These adjustments align with the Consumer Price Index. AB 1430 further requires fees collected to be dedicated to, and solely utilized for the county recorder's office, and prohibits the fees from exceeding the reasonable costs of the document recording function.

Absent this adjustment, the ability to provide services, retain an adequate, trained workforce, and maintain standards for timeliness and quality are at risk. Already, counties are facing staff reduction directly resulting from insufficient recorder revenue. In some cases, counties have been forced to decrease public hours and the closure of satellite offices due to revenue and staff

decreases. These impacts have downstream impacts on the state's economic recovery if real estate transactions are not timely and properly added to the public record.

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors greatly appreciates Assemblymember Bennett's leadership on this matter. For the reasons above, we respectfully urge an "Aye" vote on AB 1430.

Sincerely,

George Turnboo  
Chair, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors