

December 9, 2009

Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

RE: Implementation of Proposition 90  
Item # 52, 12-08-09 Agenda  
Project # 09-0992

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I would like to state my opposition of the adoption of Proposition 90. No other rural county has adopted this because it out sources the cost of services to existing residents. Not only will this cost the county roughly \$4.5 million a year in services, then up to \$22.5 million a year after 5 years, it will cost the Assessor's office an additional \$50,000 a year to implement this program. Out of the 13 counties in the state that originally adopted this amendment in the past there are only 7 left. This amendment reduces funds to our fire, school and other special service districts. This is detrimental to our rural county. It will create a new demand for urban housing, which will raise the cost of housing, putting families on an unfair playing field. Promoters of this proposition claim the county will benefit from an increase of property tax due to an increase of house sales. This has been proven to be untrue. An increase tax base in small rural communities rarely reduces individual tax burdens. The exact opposite is more likely to occur. Just look at what has happened to our water bills. According to the American Farmland Trust, for every \$1.00 paid in property taxes, the average urban resident uses \$1.36 in public services, while the average farm uses only \$0.21 in similar services. This is without taking in consideration that with this amendment the County will be reducing property tax and increasing demand for services required for senior citizens. This amendment is to benefit developers, real estate brokers and those that don't even live here all at the expense of the existing residents.

This was evaluated in 1989 by the Assessor and CAO and they came to the conclusion that this would cause our county to suffer a considerable economic loss, as the majority of people coming into our county are from more costly areas within the state. The county will be stuck with this poor decision for 5 years. The long term affect of this will cause economic shortages to our service agencies.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sue Taylor  
Camino resident