

RESOLUTION NO.

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO

RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT MEANINGFUL AND COMPREHENSIVE LAWSUIT REFORM TO PROTECT SMALL BUSINESSES, JOBS AND CONSUMERS.

WHEREAS, frivolous lawsuits by a single serial filer have recently cost El Dorado County wineries, hotels and motels over hundreds of thousands of dollars; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent published survey by California Against Lawsuit Abuse (CALA), and the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) study, 98% of California's small businesses believe lawsuit abuse has hurt California's economy and has had a negative impact on the State's business climate; and

WHEREAS, this same study found that 33% of small business owners in the State of California have been sued in the past five years, and that 72% of California's small business fear that even one lawsuit could force them to close their doors; and

WHEREAS, this same study found that 69% of business owners stated that they would expand their business within California if they were guaranteed greater protection from liability lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, in the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform's 2008 State Liability Systems Ranking Study, California was ranked the sixth worst among all states for Lawsuit Abuse; and

WHEREAS, according to Tillinghast-Towers Perrin's U.S. Tort Costs: 2003 Update, Trends and Findings on the U.S. Tort System, lawsuit costs add up to nearly \$809 per year for every person in America; and

WHEREAS, meaningful reforms to protect businesses need to be enacted by the California Legislature; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the California State Legislature and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to enact meaningful, comprehensive lawsuit reform to protect small businesses, jobs, and consumers.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the _____ day of _____, 200__, by the following vote of said Board:

Attest:

Suzanne Allen de Sanchez
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

I CERTIFY THAT:

THE FOREGOING INSTRUMENT IS A CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.

DATE: _____

Attest: Suzanne Allen de Sanchez, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado, State of California.

By: _____