

El Dorado County Fire Chiefs Association

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January 22, 2009

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors 330 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667 Ron Briggs -Chairman

RE: Suspension of the Teeter Program (Agenda Item #09-109)

Dear Chairman Briggs:

We are writing to you with our concern regarding the possible suspension of the Teeter Program to El Dorado County Fire Districts.

This program is authorized under California Government Code Section 23010. Since the 1970's, it has provided the cash flow for many local government agencies during the period between adoption of a preliminary budget and the realization of annual revenue. This practice is vital to the cash flow needs of most local agencies that utilize counties for monetary transactions.

For fire agencies, the bulk of the Teeter (loan) is the result of escalations in contractual mass mutual aid (additional class 30). Ending the Teeter, for most of these agencies, will not allow them to meet <u>basic</u> class 30 obligations (payroll). Suspension is likely to collapse the aid agreements for everyone of the affected fire agencies. Locally, this could have a major effect on commercial insurance rates locally. In addition, it will prevent most agencies from meeting their General Plan service obligations. Failure to meet these obligations will prohibit the affected Districts from issuing building permits on discretionary projects.

The County of El Dorado has witnessed first hand the significant benefit of the California Mutual Aid System. The loss of the Teeter Program will have a detrimental impact on this system both locally and statewide.

The Fire Chiefs understand the current economic crisis that faces both the County and State. However, providing for the safety of the public should always be a priority.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Keating, President El Dorado County Fire Chiefs Association 530-677-1868