

ATTACHMENT B

By email

Original to follow by US Mail

Dear Gayle,

I am writing to urge you and the Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County to implement SB 1773. If implemented it is estimated that it will raise \$190,000 for a number of critical emergency services as outlined below.

On September 30, 2006, the Governor signed into law SB 1773, effective January 1, 2007. This bill permits a County board of supervisors to elect a levy of an additional penalty assessment, in the amount of \$2 for every \$10 or fraction thereof, upon court imposed and collected fines, penalties, and forfeitures for specified criminal offenses. The funds collected are to be deposited into the EMS Fund and, of this amount, 15% of the funds must be used to provide funding for pediatric trauma centers throughout the County. If there is no pediatric trauma center located in the County, the 15% must be used to improve access to, and coordination of, pediatric trauma and emergency services in the County, with preference given to hospitals that specialize in services to children, and physicians and surgeons who provide emergency care to children. The legislation also permits up to 10% of the funds to offset the cost of administering the money deposited into the EMS Fund. The balance of the funds deposited would be distributed consistent with current statutory directives, that is, 25% to trauma hospitals, 58% to physicians providing emergency care, and 17% to the Health Care Agency's Emergency Medical Services Program.

Emergency physicians and physicians on call to emergency departments frequently are not able to collect any professional fees from the under and uninsured who seek care in emergency rooms. The existing Maddy Funds in El Dorado County will be supplemented with the new revenues made available through SB 1773. In addition, 17% will go your El Dorado County's EMS department.

The Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society's Emergency Care Committee, which is made up of the ED Medical Directors in this three county region, is anxious to see the implementation of SB 1773 occur throughout the region. Regional implementation is important because several of the emergency medical groups serve hospitals in multiple counties.

Sacramento County is in the process of reviewing implementation and it has already been implemented in Yolo Counties and many other counties throughout California.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

William A. Sandberg
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