



## MEMORANDUM

From the office of the

### Placer County Board of Supervisors

Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive / [mboyle@placer.ca.gov](mailto:mboyle@placer.ca.gov)  
Teri Sayad, Sr. Administrative Aide to the Board / [tsayad@placer.ca.gov](mailto:tsayad@placer.ca.gov)  
Ann Holman, Clerk of the Board / [aholman@placer.ca.gov](mailto:aholman@placer.ca.gov)

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors  
From: Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3  
Date: June 27, 2006  
Subject: Opposition Letter for Assembly Bill 2554 (Ridley-Thomas)

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#### ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the Chairman to execute letter to Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas opposing Assembly Bill 2554 (May 10, 2006), which would amend Section 1798.200 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to emergency medical services.

#### BACKGROUND

Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency, our local EMS Agency representing the counties of Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Nevada and Placer, opposes Assembly Bill 2554 (May 10, 2006). As a Governing Board Member of the Sierra Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency, I urge you to participate in opposing AB 2554 for the following reasons:

1. AB 2554 would override a fiscally responsible appellant process modeled in the (IRP) Investigative Review Panel process, created and utilized by SSVEMS, which exceeds the standards outlined under the Administrative Hearings Proceedings as defined in Title 2 of the Government Code. AB 2554 would require the use of an Administrative Law Judge (among other things) and represents a significant cost increase of approximately \$500.00 per hour; and
2. AB 2554 limits medical authority of each local emergency medical services agency medical director and fragments the emergency medical services (EMS) system in California; and
3. AB 2554 would allow public providers to investigate and discipline EMT I certification held by their own personnel. This potentially creates a conflict of interest. It is not feasible to have so many agencies involved with EMS disciplinary activities; and
4. AB 2554 would allow protection from discovery; any information reported or disclosed by an employer shall be deemed to be an investigatory communication and shall be exempt from disclosure.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS

None

# County of Placer Board of Supervisors

175 FULWEILER AVENUE  
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603  
530/889-4010 • FAX: 530/889-4009  
PLACER CO. TOLL FREE # 800-488-4308

BILL SANTUCCI  
District 1

ROBERT WEYGANDT  
District 2

JIM HOLMES  
District 3

EDWARD M. "TED" GAINES  
District 4

BRUCE KRANZ  
District 5



June 27, 2006

The Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas:

Today, the Placer County Board of Supervisors voted to oppose AB 2554 (Amended Version, May 10, 2006).

Sierra Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency (SSVEMS) is the local emergency medical services agency that regulates pre-hospital emergency care including first response, ground and air emergency ambulance transportation, trauma care systems and emergency medical services for children. The Placer County Board of Supervisors opposes AB 2554 for the following reasons:

- AB 2554 would override a fiscally responsible appellant process modeled in the (IRP) Investigative Review Panel process, created and utilized by SSVEMS, which exceeds the standards outlined under the Administrative Hearings Proceedings as defined in Title 2 of the Government Code. AB 2554 would require the use of an Administrative Law Judge (among other things) and represents a significant cost increase of approximately \$500.00 per hour; and
- AB 2554 limits medical authority of each local emergency medical services agency medical director and fragments the emergency medical services (EMS) system in California; and
- AB 2554 would allow public providers to investigate and discipline EMT I certification held by their own personnel. This potentially creates a conflict of interest. It is not feasible to have so many agencies involved with EMS disciplinary activities; and
- AB 2554 would allow protection from discovery; any information reported or disclosed by an employer shall be deemed to be an investigatory communication and shall be exempt from disclosure.

For these reasons, the Placer County Board of Supervisors opposes AB 2554 (Amended May 10, 2006).

Sincerely,

Bill Santucci, Chairman  
PLACER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

cc:

Senator Dave Cox  
Senator Sam Aanestad  
Assemblyman Tim Leslie  
Assemblyman Rick Keene

Assemblyman Roger Niello  
California State Association of Counties  
Rural Council of Rural Counties  
Leonard Inch, Director, SSVEMS

E-mail: [bos@placer.ca.gov](mailto:bos@placer.ca.gov) — Web: [www.placer.ca.gov/bos](http://www.placer.ca.gov/bos)