



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

# NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Executive Office (707)463-4441

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TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA

Ukiah, California... *December 17, 2010*

## *SUPPORT EXTENSION OF VLF FOR PUBLIC SAFETY*

On June 30, 2011 the Vehicle License Fee for public safety is scheduled to sunset. Should the State Legislature fail to extend this vitally important source of funding, public safety funding in Mendocino County will be reduced by over \$1.2 million for the coming fiscal year. Affected departments will include the Sheriff's Office, Probation, and the District Attorney's Office.

Assembly Member Wes Chesbro has submitted bills AB 66 and ABX1 9 seeking to extend the sunset provision and thereby fund these important public safety departments. On December 14, 2010, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to support Mr. Chesbro's legislation and submit this endorsement to every member of the California State Legislature. Joining in this endorsement of Mr. Chesbro's bills are Sheriff Tom Allman, District Attorney Meredith Lintott, Probation Officer Jim Brown, and Chief Executive Officer Carmel J. Angelo.

Members of the public are encouraged to write to the leadership of the California State Legislature, across all party lines, in support of this important source of public safety funding.

### **Republican Leadership:**

Assembly Minority Leader Connie Conway  
P.O. Box 942849  
Room 3104  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0034

Senate Minority Leader Bob Dutton  
State Capitol, Room 5094  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **Democratic Leadership:**

Speaker John Perez  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0046

Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Members of the media are encouraged to contact affected County officials for further comment:

Sheriff Tom Allman: (707) 463-4411  
District Attorney Meredith Lintott: (707) 463-4211  
Probation Officer Jim Brown: (707) 463-5750

Attached is a copy of the letter approved on December 14, 2010.

Released by: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Carmel J. Angelo, Chief Executive Officer

CARMEL J. ANGELO  
Chief Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board



PAULINE RANTALA  
Deputy Clerk of the Board

**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

CONTACT INFORMATION  
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Ukiah, California 95482  
TELEPHONE: (707) 463-4221  
FAX: (707) 463-7237  
Email: [bos@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:bos@co.mendocino.ca.us)  
Web: [www.co.mendocino.ca.us/bos](http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/bos)

December 14, 2010

Assemblyman Wes Chesbro  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento CA 94249-0001

**Re: Vehicle License Fee (VLF) Funding for Local Public Safety – SUPPORT OF EXTENSION as  
Introduced by Assemblyman Wes Chesbro, AB 66 & ABX1 9**

Dear Assemblyman Chesbro,

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, I write to affirm our unanimous support for extending the sunset on the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) for local public safety programs and services. The funding source – absent of legislative action – is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2011. We also commend you for bringing this forward and we strongly believe the issue of public safety funding is not a partisan issue, but is rather an issue that all Californian's can agree upon.

Mendocino County has a population of around 90,000 individuals with a very large percentage of this population living in the unincorporated areas of the county. Criminal activity originating in this county is known to have spillover effects upon our neighboring counties, California as a whole, and the nation. Reduction in this source of funding for critical law enforcement services will result in drastic consequences that can be avoided if the VLF is extended.

For the upcoming fiscal year, cuts in the VLF will result in the following reductions:

- \$715,025 Reduction for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and Jail
- \$435,011 Reduction for the Mendocino County Probation Department
- \$85,031 Reduction in funding for the Mendocino County District Attorney

The VLF for Public Safety supports a range of programs from frontline law enforcement services as well as critical intervention and prevention services for juvenile offenders, among others. Dedicated funding for programs such as the Citizen's Option for Public Safety (COPS) and the Rural and Small County Sheriff's Assistance Grants supports critical services upon which our communities rely for baseline coverage. The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act has allowed Mendocino County to develop a continuum of appropriate treatment and sanction options that identify and address the issue of juvenile rural gangs, ultimately helping keep the State's offender population in check. The VLF also funds a portion of our Juvenile Citations/Traffic Unit and our Juvenile Out-of-Home Placement Unit and support staff. Finally, the VLF funds our hard working Child Abuse Vertical Prosecution program.

Like many other California counties, Mendocino County is struggling to provide baseline services for our residents. Virtually all programs in the county have suffered severe budget cuts and further reductions - even if they appear small when compared to other wealthier counties - will have devastating implications.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

CARRE BROWN  
First District

JOHN MCCOWEN  
Second District

JOHN PINCHES  
Third District

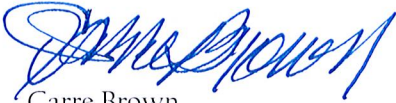
KENDALL SMITH  
Fourth District

J. DAVID COLFAX  
Fifth District

Mendocino County stands ready to work with you and our neighbors to ensure that the VLF remains a resource for sustaining important public safety and intervention programs at the local level.

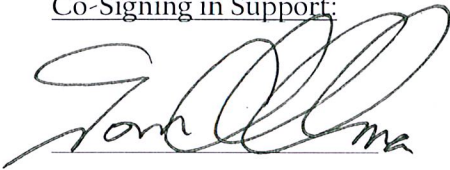
Thank you for your action on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Carre Brown  
Chair, Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

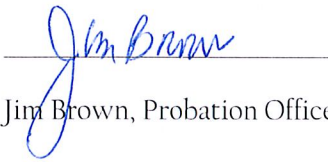
Co-Signing in Support:



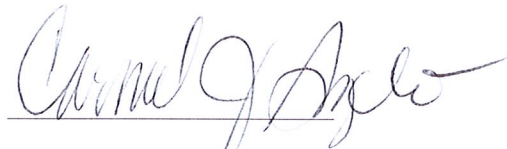
Tom Allman, Sheriff



Meredith Lintott, District Attorney



Jim Brown, Probation Officer



Carmel J. Angelo, Chief Executive Officer

cc:

Governor-Elect Jerry Brown  
Senate President Pro-Tem Darrel Steinberg  
Senate Minority Leader Bob Dutton  
Members of the California State Senate  
Assembly Speaker John Perez  
Assembly Minority Leader Connie Conway  
Members of the California State Assembly  
California State Association of Counties  
Media Outlets