



**COUNTY OF  
SAN BERNARDINO**

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LANCE M. LARSON  
Director of Legislative Affairs

February 24, 2010

The Honorable Fiona Ma  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **AB 223** – As Amended January 4, 2010 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Ma:

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors is pleased to support AB 223. This legislation establishes minimum statewide health and oversight standards for the regulation of practitioners engaged in the business of tattooing, body piercing, and the application of permanent cosmetics in California.

Despite requirements in existing law and repeated calls from both health practitioners and established body art professional trade associations, California still does not have enforceable statewide standards that are sufficiently detailed for consistent and effective local enforcement. The current lack of enforceable statewide standards puts public health at risk, provides an uneven playing field for the industry, and does not accommodate reciprocity between local jurisdictions of registered practitioners.

AB 223, which would be entirely fee supported, ensures that statewide standards are not only protective of public health, but are fair and reasonably enforceable. AB 223 will mitigate the potentially serious public health risks associated with unregulated body art by requiring practitioners to register with their local county and comply with requirements related to vaccinations, blood borne pathogens training, and site inspections.

For these reasons, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors is in support of AB 223. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lance Larson, the County's Director of Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821. The Board thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

**GARY C. OVITT**  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

cc: Members, San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation