



**COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brad Mitzelfelt *First District*
Paul Biane, Chair.....*Second District*
Dennis Hansberger *Third District*
Gary Ovitt, Vice-Chair *Fourth District*
Josie Gonzales *Fifth District*

June 2, 2008

The Honorable Alex Padilla
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1236 (Padilla) - As Amended 04/03/08 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Padilla:

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors supports SB 1236, which extends the sunset date on current law that allows counties to levy a small fee on criminal penalties to augment access to pediatric trauma and emergency services.

As you know, current law authorizes counties to augment the Emergency Medical Services Fund by collecting an additional \$2 penalty assessment on every \$10 penalty for all criminal offenses and moving violations, including speeding, driving under the influence, and domestic violence. Counties are then required to allocate 15 percent of these new funds to pediatric trauma centers, or to improve access to pediatric and trauma services in the county. The authority for counties to levy the additional \$2 penalty assessment sunsets on January 1, 2009, this legislation extends the sunset date to January 1, 2014.

Counties believe that retaining the ability to levy the small assessment is critical to keeping California's ailing emergency and trauma care system afloat. The availability of pediatric trauma care services is also of paramount importance, as time is of the essence when children are injured. SB 1236 would continue to provide critically needed dollars for California's ailing emergency and trauma care system, especially pediatric trauma care services.

For these reasons, the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County joins with the California State Association of Counties in support of SB 1236. The Board thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

PAUL BIANE
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

cc: Members, San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.