

PRESS ADVISORY

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Supervisors Pursue Ordinance Lowering Other County Elected Officials' Benefits

SAN BERNARDINO—Jan. 24, 2012—Two weeks after adopting an ordinance slashing future Board members' benefits by 18 percent, San Bernardino County Supervisors agreed on Tuesday to craft an ordinance that would bring future County elected officials' total compensation in line with similar-size Southern California counties.

“The gold-plated benefits provided to San Bernardino County elected officials is completely out of line with what other counties are providing, and this Board needs to take action to reign those benefits back to fiscal reality,” said Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford, who requested the benefits reduction ordinance in conjunction with Third District Supervisor Neil Derry.

The proposed ordinance would apply to the offices of Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk, Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector, Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator, and District Attorney. If the ordinance is adopted, it would not impact County elected officials currently in office.

State law prohibits reducing elected officials' compensation while they are still serving their term in office. However, elected officials can individually accept benefits reductions. Rutherford has agreed to accept the benefits reduction for Supervisors that was created by an ordinance adopted on Jan. 10.

The County Administrative Office will draft the benefits reduction ordinance for countywide elected officials and will bring it back to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

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