

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**




FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley

SUBMITTAL DATE: June 3, 2003

SUBJECT: Position on pending state legislation, SB 707 by Senator Dean Florez.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board oppose SB 707 and direct the Executive Office and the Board's Sacramento office to advocate the Board's position.

BACKGROUND: SB 707 would prohibit the certification of an environmental impact report and the approval of a negative declaration, for any project that includes construction or alteration of a "confined animal facility" within three miles of a city or developed area of at least 5000 persons. The bill defines "confined animal facility" as a facility where domesticated animals, including cattle, calves, horses, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits, chickens turkeys or ducks are corralled, penned, or otherwise caused to remain in restricted areas of the facility for commercial agricultural purposes. The bills author states that dairies contribute a significant amount of PM10, which causes new cases of asthma, especially in children. The intent of this bill is to provide a buffer between harmful particulates and developing lungs. This bill usurps local land use control and makes local Riverside County planning decisions in Sacramento. Current state law, the California Environmental Quality Act, makes provisions for consideration of the environmental impacts of projects involving farming activities. This bill mandates statewide mitigation measures without consideration of local conditions and removes the County's flexibility to address the individual and distinct circumstances that occur in Riverside County. For these reasons, the Board of Supervisors should oppose SB 707.


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