

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



**FROM:** Supervisor John J. Benoit

**SUBMITTAL DATE:** April 24, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Support of Assembly Bill 1096 (Brian Nestande): Salton Sea Specialty License Plate, as currently drafted

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Support Assembly Bill 1096 (AB 1096) which requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue specialized license plates for the purpose of raising funds for the Salton Sea Authority to enhance Salton Sea restoration; and
- 2) Authorize the chairman of the Board to forward a letter of support to the bill's author and our Sacramento advocates; and
- 3) Pursue necessary advocacy in support of AB 1096.

**BACKGROUND:** Assembly Bill 1096, Salton Sea Specialty License Plate, would require the Department of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Salton Sea Authority, to design and make available for issuance special Salton Sea environmental interest license plates. The bill would create a Salton Sea restoration account in the Specialized License Plate Fund to fund restoration efforts at the Salton Sea.

AB 1096, introduced by Assemblyman Brian Nestande, addresses the need for additional funding towards Salton Sea restoration. The bill allows the Salton Sea Authority to apply to the department to sponsor a specialized license plate program, and the department shall issue specialized license plates for that program if a minimum of 7,500 applications for plates are submitted.

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Supervisor John J. Benoit, Fourth District

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## **BACKGROUND CONTINUED:**

In addition to the regular fees for an original registration or renewal, the original issuance of the plates will cost \$50; for renewal of registration, \$40; for transfer of plates to another vehicle, \$15; and for each replacement plate, \$35. AB 1096 allows Californians to support this important cause, raises public awareness of the effort and provides a continuous funding stream, to be used by the Salton Sea Authority, for restoration projects.

A similar program, the California Lake Tahoe license plate, has raised more than \$12 million with 96 percent of the funding going directly to projects that build, maintain and protect the trails, water quality, wildlife and forest health of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

I respectfully request my colleagues' concurrence to support Assembly Bill 1096, as currently drafted, and urge necessary advocacy in support of AB 1096.