

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2009/556

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SUPPORT FOR REPAIR CALIFORNIA'S BALLOT MEASURES CONVENING A
STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Council, a business sponsored, public policy organization for the some of the largest employers in California has created Repair California, a non-partisan, statewide coalition of individuals and organizations, which advocates for convening a limited Constitutional Convention to repair California's governance; and

WHEREAS, California has one of the oldest state Constitutions still in use today and is the world's third longest Constitution. With 512 amendments, the Constitution of California is eight times the length of the U.S. Constitution. When our Constitution was written, the state's population was nearly 8,000 residents. Now our state possesses more than 7,000 units of government and more than 36 million residents. Due to our constitutional challenges, there is no "silver bullet" reform; and

WHEREAS, Repair California will seek to place two measures on the ballot which will be the first systematic reform of the guiding document of our great state since 1879;

WHEREAS, the first ballot measure will amend the state Constitution to allow for the electorate to call a Constitutional Convention; the second measure will call and convene a limited state Constitutional Convention focused on issues of governance; and

WHEREAS, the judicially-enforceable, limited Constitutional Convention will focus solely on issues of governance, defined as elections, the budget process, revenue distribution, and restoring the balance of power between the state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, designed to offer certain protection to the people of the Golden state, California's Constitution has largely been ignored in Sacramento, where the choice has been made to balance the budget by using property tax revenues, siphoning gas tax money, and halting important projects by taking redevelopment funds. Numerous punitive articles shifting power and revenue away from local governments are permanently locked into the current state Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors declares its support for the dual ballot measures proposed by Repair California to convene a State Constitutional Convention in California to revise the guiding document of our great state.

SUSAN A. BONILLA

Chair,
District IV Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

GAYLE B. UILKEMA

District II Supervisor

MARY N. PIEPHO

District III Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: December 15, 2009

David J. Twa,

By: _____, Deputy