



Contra  
Costa  
County

To: Board of Supervisors  
From: David Twa, County Administrator  
Date: January 8, 2013

Subject: Contract for State Legislative Advocacy Services with Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni LLP

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**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the County Administrator, or his designee, to execute, on behalf of the County a contract with Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni LLP in an amount not to exceed \$360,000, to provide professional state legislative advocacy and related services, for the period from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This contract is funded 100% by the County General Fund.

**BACKGROUND:**

At its December 11, 2012 meeting, the Board of Supervisors considered the recommendation from the Legislation Committee to authorize a contract with Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni LLP ("Nielsen Merksamer") for state advocacy services for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$360,000.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

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Action of Board On: **01/08/2013** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

**VOTE OF SUPERVISORS**

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor  
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor  
Mary N. Piepho, District III Supervisor  
Karen Mitchoff, District IV 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: January 8, 2013

David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Carrie Del Bonta, Deputy

Contact: L. DeLaney,  
925-335-1097

cc:

Nielsen Merksamer has extensive experience in the

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

field of governmental advocacy with respect to legislative, administrative, and legal issues directly affecting counties. Nielsen Merksamer is recognized for its expertise in the broad area of state and county relations, particularly fiscal relationships. The firm has been instrumental in the development and advancement of the County's legislative platform for many years.

After a solicitation and review process that culminated in the recommendation by the County Selection Committee to the Legislation Committee that Nielsen Merksamer be retained for the state advocacy contract, the Board of Supervisors concurred with the recommendation.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Without this contract approval and authorization, the County will not have representation by a firm for state advocacy services.

CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

None.