

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No: 10 – 119

Adopt Resolution to support the State of)
California Enterprise Zone Program.)

WHEREAS, the origins of California’s Enterprise Zone came through enactment of two separate programs in 1984 – the Enterprise Zone Act and the Employment and Economic Incentive Act; and

WHEREAS, the Enterprise Zone provides a geographically-targeted economic development tool for poor and blighted communities by creating incentives for businesses to hire new employees and purchase equipment for their businesses; and

WHEREAS, the County and the Cities of Salinas, King City, Greenfield, Gonzales and Soledad, jointly participated in the preparation of an application to designate portions of those jurisdictions as an Enterprise Zone; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2009, the Salinas Valley Enterprise Zone received its final designation as an Enterprise Zone from the California Department of Housing and Community Development; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the County of Monterey and the Cities of Salinas, King City, Greenfield, Gonzales and Soledad has established the Salinas Valley Enterprise Zone Advisory Board to review ongoing Zone program activities and make policy recommendations to the Enterprise Zone Manager; and

WHEREAS, the State of California and the Salinas Valley are experiencing their worst economic crisis since the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, the County, cities and communities of the Salinas Valley experience high seasonal unemployment each year; and

WHEREAS, the economic crisis has exacerbated this situation, resulting in unemployment rates for February 2010, between 22% and 40.4% for the County, cities and communities of Salinas Valley; and

WHEREAS, these high unemployment rates serve to increase poverty, crime, and foreclosures of homes, and lead to the disruption of public services to those in the community most in need of assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Salinas Valley Enterprise Zone has worked to combat these social problems by using the Enterprise Zone’s incentives to encourage new businesses to locate within the Enterprise Zone and existing businesses to expand their operations; and

WHEREAS, the Salinas Valley Enterprise Zone has worked with local organizations and programs, including the Monterey County OneStop Career Center and City of Salinas Operation Ceasefire, in an effort to encourage businesses to hire the most at-risk individuals; and

WHEREAS, as of April 1, 2010, the Salinas Valley Enterprise Zone has issued a total of 560 Hiring Credit Vouchers to 118 local businesses, and

WHEREAS, the Enterprise Zone has served to attract additional businesses, including electric vehicle manufacturer Green Vehicles Inc., to the Salinas Valley, and has helped many others stay in business or expand their operations; and

WHEREAS, companies moving to or remaining in the Salinas Valley have stated specifically that the Enterprise Zone was a key component in their decisions to locate or remain within the Salinas Valley and California; and

WHEREAS, the jurisdictions of the Salinas Valley acknowledge that the attraction of new businesses and the retention and expansion of existing businesses is the most effective way of guaranteeing the long-term well-being of the County, cities and communities of the Salinas Valley; and

WHEREAS, the jurisdictions within the Salinas Valley have come to recognize the Enterprise Zone as the most impactful state incentive to create new jobs, grow existing businesses, and compete with other states to attract outside investment to California; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County believes that the Enterprise Zone has had a significant positive effect on business activity and economic growth in the Salinas Valley; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey, Board of Supervisors, believes that eliminating the most critical business assistance program in the state would be a huge setback to improving California's business climate and its struggles to reach an economic recovery, and urges the State of California to support the Enterprise Zone program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 11th day of May, 2010, upon motion of Supervisor Potter, seconded by Supervisor Armenta, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Armenta, Calcagno, Salinas, Potter

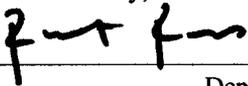
NOES: None

ABSENT: Supervisor Parker

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 75 for the meeting on May 11, 2010.

Dated: May 13, 2010

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By  _____
Deputy