

September 30, 2014

No on 46
PO Box 2511
Sacramento, CA 95812

via email to: info@NoOn46.com

RE: Proposition 46 - OPPOSE

Dear No on 46:

On behalf of Monterey County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express Monterey County's opposition to Proposition 46, the Troy and Alana Pack Patient Safety Act of 2014.

If passed, Proposition 46 will enact changes to the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) limit on non-economic medical malpractice awards effective January 1, 2015. This would result in significant increases in Monterey County's costs due to our unique role as operators of a public hospital and clinics, providers of health care, and employers who purchase health care insurance for County employees and retirees.

According to California's independent Legislative Analyst, passage of Proposition 46 would result in an increase in medical malpractice insurance premium costs averaging 10% – potentially more than \$100 million dollars – which will directly impact the physicians and facilities that purchase medical malpractice insurance as well as the patients served by those entities. It is also anticipated that it will increase the overall award amounts and settlements in medical malpractice cases as well as an increase in the overall number of injury claims. Additionally, it will increase oversight and administrative costs for a number of state health-related Boards, including the state Medical and Pharmacy Boards, as well as investigation and prosecution costs for the State Attorney General's Office.

Proposition 46 will make it harder for California counties to deliver vital care to millions of patients and will increase costs for local governments. For these reasons, we strongly oppose Proposition 46.

Sincerely,

Louis R. Calcagno
Chair, Board of Supervisors