

DRAFT RESOLUTION  
SUPPORTING A STRATEGY FOR PRESERVING AND GROWING MANUFACTURING JOBS

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors is concerned about the declining high-wage job base in California, the Central Valley and Stanislaus County and,

WHEREAS, manufacturing is essential to the strength of our state and local economy and its prospects for future growth; and,

WHEREAS, manufacturing locally, regionally and statewide is innovative, efficient, and productive, and employs cutting edge technologies with highly skilled workers; and,

WHEREAS, the costs to manufacture in California are among the highest in the nation for reasons ranging from overly restrictive legislation and regulation, to unwise tax policies and legal burdens, an inefficient workers' compensation system, and volatile energy prices; and,

WHEREAS, California's depressed economic climate has resulted in the loss of more than 300,000 manufacturing jobs statewide during the past three years; and,

WHEREAS, an effective strategy to reverse the adverse cost and employment trends, presently afflicting the state's manufacturers, depends in large measure on the enactment and implementation of effective policies for growth by the Governor, the California State Legislature, and California regulatory agencies; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has expressed his recognition of the heavy burden confronting California's manufacturers, and has offered a number of concrete proposals to advance a recovery plan;

WHEREAS, local and state business and manufacturing with special emphasis being placed on:

- Business Incentives to preserve and enhance the Manufacturers Investment Credit and other economic motivations to manufacturers in the state;
- Workers' Compensation Reform to lower premium rates and return a higher benefit to the injured worker;
- Cost-cutting reforms to permanently improve the legal, regulatory and environmental and health care systems,
- Worker and skills enhancing efforts, to put people back to work, and to empower current and future workers to meet the demands of modern day manufacturing, and to share in the economic rewards.
- Comprehensive plan to pay back the unprecedented state budget deficit without heaping more cost burdens on the companies that provide the jobs the state so desperately need; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, in cooperation with local and state business and manufacturing organizations will seek to advocate before Governor Schwarzenegger, the California State Legislature, and the California State regulatory agencies, a strategy for preserving and growing the State's manufacturing jobs; and,

Be it further resolved that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors in cooperation with our local and state business and manufacturing organizations takes these steps on behalf of the more than 130,000 workers and their families who are dependent upon the manufacturing sector (30,000 manufacturing jobs and 100,000 additional jobs due to the employment multipliers), and the additional and broader interests of all Californians. Relying on a proven ability to innovate, a constant commitment to quality and excellence in products and processes, and a durable entrepreneurial spirit, modern manufacturers will do their part. The Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors will demand the same of state government.

On behalf of the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, (I/we) officially (endorse/support/encourage) pledge our commitment to the success of the effort to reinvigorate California's manufacturing sector.