



# PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY

(530) 889-7469  
Mailing Address:

FAX (530) 889-7447  
11490 C Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603

**RESOLUTION OF THE 2010-11 GRAND JURY OF THE COUNTY OF PLACER, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 622, AUTHORED BY ASSEMBLYMAN ROGER DICKENSON, RELATING TO CIVIL GRAND JURY PROCEEDINGS.**

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 622, authored by Assemblyman Roger Dickinson proposes to require every session of a civil Grand Jury in which testimony under oath is taken to be open to the public, and allow counsel for the witness to be present; and

WHEREAS, as currently proposed, AB 622 would decrease the effectiveness of the Grand Jury as a watchdog over public officials and employees, increase the cost of supporting the Grand Jury process by requiring accommodation of public and press participation, and eliminate the Grand Jury as a forum for whistle blowers due to the lack of confidentiality; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes will create barriers to the investigation and publishing of potentially unfavorable reports produced by independent citizen volunteers serving a watchdog function over local government entities; and

WHEREAS, existing protections provide sufficient opportunity for public access to Grand Jury proceedings while maintaining the confidentiality of the Grand Jury's civil watchdog functions;

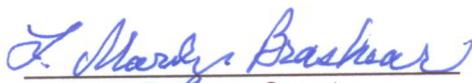
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in keeping with the longstanding California tradition encouraging independent citizen volunteers and protecting the confidentiality of Grand Jury proceedings, the Placer County Grand Jury herein advises the California State Legislature and the Governor of its unequivocal opposition to Assembly Bill No. 622 sponsored by Assemblyman Dickinson, which will not make the Grand Jury process better, but will only weaken it.

The Clerk of Presiding Judge of the Placer County Superior Court is hereby directed to file and deliver a copy of this Resolution to the California Legislature and the Governor's Office.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the 2010-11 Placer County Grand Jury this 19 day of May, 2011.

  
John J. Monaco, Foreperson  
2010-11 Placer County Grand Jury

Attest:

  
L. Marilyn Brashear, Secretary  
2010-11 Placer County Grand Jury