

No. 11-21

Filed FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

By HEATHER RYAN

Board Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE**

**Tuolumne County Requests State and Local "Partnership" in Dealing with Covid-19 Issues**

- WHEREAS, the paramount concern of policymakers at all levels is the health and well-being of their constituents, never more apparent than during what has been called a once-in-a-century pandemic; and
- WHEREAS, California's *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* provides a one-size-fits-all approach to reopening California's counties which fails to allow the flexibility to respond in a data-driven way to what is actually occurring in each county; and
- WHEREAS, small businesses owners and their employees have not been justly compensated in a manner which would enable them to remain economically viable in California's *Blueprint for a Safer Economy*; and
- WHEREAS, Tuolumne County is extremely concerned about other public health impacts the response to Covid-19 is creating such as drug abuse, depression, mental health, anxiety and creating greater socioeconomic divides; and
- WHEREAS, by changing the Covid-19 strategic plan multiple times from tiered matrices with phased openings, changing timelines, color maps, modifications in equity metrics, regionalization and ICU capacity, the State has created undue hardship on local jurisdictions' and businesses ability to plan, operate and provide for the welfare of their constituents; and
- WHEREAS, the State's Covid-19 vaccine rollout has been chaotic at best, with its many changes, causing mass confusion amongst our citizens; and
- WHEREAS, in proposing a Third Party Administrator (TPA) for a new vaccine framework, the State is activating yet another strategic change that will further remove the ability of local rural jurisdictions like Tuolumne County to provide the level of service and day-to-day coordination efforts in developing, administering and carrying out vaccination efforts countywide, ignoring the significant hours already spent to optimize these customized plans; and
- WHEREAS, the most significant need in Tuolumne County is for the State to provide a dedicated, continual and predictable supply of vaccines for our County; and
- WHEREAS, the next essential need for Tuolumne County is for sustained State Covid-19 funding and an allocation of personnel including other resources to support us; and
- WHEREAS, Tuolumne County prefers to work WITH the State as a "partner" and not seen as merely a provider; and
- WHEREAS, the State Auditor recently reported that the larger California counties have received disproportionately more Covid funding than smaller counties, and that vaccine distribution has favored big populations over rural populations; and

WHEREAS, as of February 9, 2021, our Tuolumne County rural healthcare local partnership which includes public health has vaccinated 7,742 individuals out of a population of 45,326 eligible (over 18 years old) residents, or 17.08%; and

WHEREAS, Tuolumne County has the capacity to quickly ramp up and vaccinate many more citizens, given a dedicated and consistent supply of vaccine, adequate funding and capacity to work collaboratively with the State; and

WHEREAS, Tuolumne County suggests, rather than adopting yet another layer of complexity in creating a TPA to administer vaccinations which *may actually slow down distribution*, that the State prioritize local health jurisdictions to receive and distribute vaccines which build upon their existing unique needs and mass vaccination plans; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Tuolumne County advocates that the State fund local health jurisdictions to build out the infrastructure necessary to support all vaccination operations from distribution to vaccinating and data entry.

WHEREAS, Tuolumne County, as a partner, requests meaningful and ongoing consultation with the State about our local needs long in advance of any changes to be implemented in order to give affected businesses, organizations and individuals time to plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors requests and encourages collaboration with the Governor's Office and State leaders to improve vaccine service delivery and economic recovery at the local level with the understanding that Tuolumne County is geographically diverse and ill-suited for the regional restrictions imposed by the *Blueprint*, and suggests that the State enable our Covid-19 response to be tailored to fit our County, as circumstances and case levels warrant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, from an equity perspective, it is essential that the quantities of vaccines made available should be increased along with improved funding to better support Tuolumne County's at-risk populations rather than be diverted to networks or a TPA that is unable to respond to the unique needs of our community.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE ON February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

AYES:	1st Dist. <u>DAVID GOLDENBERG</u>	NOES:	_____	Dist.
	2nd Dist. <u>RYAN CAMPBELL</u>		_____	Dist.
	3rd Dist. <u>DANIEL ANTOHIAH KIRK</u>	ABSENT:	_____	Dist.
	4th Dist. <u>KATHLEEN HAFF</u>		_____	Dist.
	5th Dist. <u>JARON BRANDON</u>	ABSTAIN:	_____	Dist.



CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:   
Board Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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I hereby certify that according to the provisions of Government Code Section 25103, delivery of this document has been made.

HEATHER D. RYAN  
Board Clerk

By: 