

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Certified copy of portion of proceedings, Meeting of March 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 23-26

**REQUEST FOR HUMBOLDT COUNTY STATE DELEGATES TO INTRODUCE
LEGISLATION TO ALLOW A VOTER-APPROVED ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE
CURRENT STATE-LIMITED SALES TAX RATE AS WELL AS INCREASE ALLOWABLE
ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT SERVICE FEE**

WHEREAS, the State and Country are clearly in an era of economic flux and uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, the County of Humboldt has a responsibility to continue to address the needs of its regions and communities, and to effectively collaborate with its municipalities to competently address the needs of residents, businesses, and stakeholders no matter what the condition of the economy is; and

WHEREAS, it is well established that the County of Humboldt, like many others throughout California, has experienced ongoing funding challenges in meeting the essential needs of residents, such as 911 emergency response, homeless services, and safe streets/roads/infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the County and its cities and unincorporated regions have recently suffered devastating natural catastrophes including earthquake, storm damage, and flooding; and

WHEREAS, the County is not only still recovering from the impacts of these catastrophes, but as a region that is prone to earthquakes, large storms, fires, landslides and other disasters, must plan properly and responsibly to address these needs into the future, including the ability to properly maintain streets and roads, so vital to emergency ingress/egress to areas affected by natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, over the past several years, County, local leaders, and Humboldt County residents have recognized that locally controlled sources of funding are an essential long-term fiscal sustainability strategy to meeting and addressing local needs; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to preserve its flexibility to augment or expand local sales tax funding options to address our safety and infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, California Revenue and Taxation Code Sections 7251.1 and 7285.3 provide that the combined district tax rates in any county must not exceed 2%; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eureka has already reached the maximum rate allowable under current code; and

WHEREAS, without enabling legislation to allow a voter-approved ordinance to exceed the current state-limited sales tax rate in our County, it would not be possible to expand these critical local funding sources in our region; and

WHEREAS, the County has an increased need to abate abandoned vehicles, especially in remote areas for the health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, the cost to abate the vehicles has increased; and

WHEREAS, the revenues received from the current fee imposed for abandoned vehicle abatement services pursuant to Vehicle Code Sections 9250.7 and 22710 has remained stagnant due to limits imposed by state law; and

WHEREAS, without legislation to increase the abandoned vehicle abatement service fee, the county and all of its partners will not have enough funding to effectively deal with the local need related to abandoned vehicles.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The County of Humboldt requests that its state delegates introduce legislation to allow a local voter-approved ordinance of no more than 1.0% that could, in combination with all other taxes, exceed the maximum allowable sales tax rate, to preserve all local funding options available as our region both recovers from natural catastrophes and plans for the future in a period of fiscal uncertainty.
2. The County of Humboldt further requests that its state delegates introduce legislation to increase the allowable service fee related to abandoned vehicle abatements to five dollars (\$5) on all vehicles described in Vehicle Code Section 9250.7(a)(1) and an additional five dollars (\$5) on all commercial vehicles described in Vehicle Code Section 9250.7(a)(2) registered to an owner with an address in the County of Humboldt, but that an owner of commercial vehicles so described shall not be required to pay more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per calendar year for all commercial motor vehicles registered to them, to allow Humboldt County and its city partners to remove abandoned vehicles in the community.

Dated: March 7, 2023



STEVE MADRONE, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Supervisor Arroyo and the following vote:

AYES:	Supervisors	-- Bushnell, Bohn, Madrone, Wilson, Arroyo
NAYS:	Supervisors	--
ABSENT:	Supervisors	--
ABSTAIN:	Supervisors	--

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be an original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.



By NIKKI TURNER
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Humboldt, State of California