



# COUNTY OF TULARE

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Administration Bldg. 2800 West Burrel Visalia, CA 93291

Telephone: (559) 636-5000

Fax: (559) 615-3009

April 8, 2025

The Honorable Senator John Laird  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Suite 8720  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### RE: SB 577 (Laird): Civil Actions – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Laird:

On behalf of the Tulare County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 577, which amends sections of the Code of Civil Procedure related to civil actions. We appreciate your leadership in bringing clarity and efficiency to legal proceedings that directly impact public entities and the communities we serve. By establishing a five-year limitation for refiling certain childhood sexual assault claims that were previously dismissed without prejudice, SB 577 strikes a necessary balance between respecting the rights of survivors and ensuring the timely resolution of cases. This limitation helps preserve the integrity of evidence and witness testimony, both of which are critical to fair adjudication.

Additionally, SB 577 clarifies that, for the purpose of validating proceedings, indebtedness related to refunding bonds issued by public entities to address tort action judgments is deemed to exist as of the date a public entity adopts a resolution or ordinance meeting specified conditions. This provision offers much-needed financial clarity for counties like Tulare when managing legal obligations arising from such judgments.

Finally, by granting counties and other government entities the ability to seek cost recovery at the demurrer stage, SB 577 discourages frivolous lawsuits that unnecessarily burden public resources. This provision not only helps protect counties from undue legal expenses but also ensures that Tulare County can recover costs when it is wrongly sued and subsequently dismissed on demurrer.

We believe SB 577 will contribute to a more efficient and equitable legal system, benefiting both public entities and the residents we serve. For these reasons, the County of Tulare supports SB 577.

Sincerely,

Pete Vander Poel, Chair  
Tulare County Board of Supervisors

cc: Tulare County State Delegation  
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer and Lange

Larry Micari  
District One

Pete Vander Poel  
District Two

Amy Shuklian  
District Three

Eddie Valero  
District Four

Dennis Townsend  
District Five