

**WHEREAS**, the first Orange County Fair occurred in 1890 and has since thrived as a “Celebration of Orange County’s Communities, Interests and Heritage” as is stated in the Orange County Fair and Event Center mission statement; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the State of California’s budget deficit of over \$26 billion, the largest in the state’s history, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed the sale of surplus or underutilized assets for the purpose of helping to close the budget deficit; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 28, 2009 the Orange County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution # 09-110, in support of Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposal to sell the Orange County Fairgrounds, only if the sale provided that the Fairgrounds would be sold to a local government agency or local not-for-profit corporation to *perpetuate* its use as a fairgrounds, event center, and equestrian facility; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 7, 2009, the California Department of General Services released a Request for Proposals for the sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Request for Proposals does not require the buyer to be a local government agency or local not-for-profit, nor does it require the buyer to perpetuate the utilization of the property as a fairgrounds, event center, and equestrian facility; and

**WHEREAS**, the Orange County Fairgrounds is the only asset of its kind the State is actually proposing to sell and relinquish control over; and

**WHEREAS**, the Orange County Fairgrounds are wholly contained within the corporate limits of the City of Costa Mesa; the City of Costa Mesa’s General Plan designates the property as “Fairgrounds”; the City of Costa Mesa has zoned the property “recreational/institutional”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Costa Mesa City Council has authorized preparation of a Specific Plan for the Fairgrounds property and subsequently directed staff to prepare a ballot initiative for the June 2010 ballot for voter approval of a land use restriction to “Fairgrounds”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Orange County Board of Supervisors believes that it is the best interests of the public that the Governor immediately cancel the sale of Fairgrounds property;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** does hereby request that Governor Schwarzenegger immediately cancel the sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**, does hereby respectfully call upon all other cities in Orange County to join with the County of Orange and the City of Costa Mesa in formally requesting of the Governor that the proposed sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds be cancelled immediately.