

Statement of the Friends of the Mendocino Country Library Bookmobile

We, the Friends of the Library join the Mendocino County Library Advisory Board to request that the Board of Supervisors cease any plan to combine the Library, the Museum and the Parks Departments into the proposed Cultural Services Agency. We are concerned that funds designated exclusively for the library system could be co-mingled by merging of the Library into a CSA. We believe that this change will do irreparable harm to the library system by jeopardizing any chance of passing an extension of Measure A. The Board of Supervisors must consider the following:

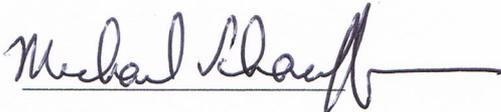
(1) On November 8, 2011, Measure A, a Mendocino County Sales Tax to Support Libraries, was approved by 75.66% of the voters. The voters of Mendocino County imposed a specific tax upon themselves to support the Library, thus the proceeds from Measure A cannot be used to support other activities. The Board of Supervisors and the CEO have acknowledged that the Library revenue will not be used for non-library purposes. Notwithstanding this pledge, there is the likelihood that enough voters will believe that a co-mingling of funds may have transpired and as a result vote against a renewed Measure A in 2028. Thus the Library may lose more than one-half of its revenue and return the library system to its degraded pre-Measure A condition.

(2) Michael K. Scannell, a former County Administrative Officer, in a letter dated November 10 1992 to the Board of Supervisors, stated: "The passage of Assembly Bill 3027 in October of this year essentially put the issue of establishing the Library's organizational identity to rest. The Library was, and remains a Special District." The County must therefore provide its legal argument that enables a Special District to combine with other departments.

(3) The creation of the proposed CSA will replace the Library Director to a part-time basis and will harm the library, staff morale and services.

There are hundreds of actively engaged members of the Mendocino County Friends groups. We have pledged funds to support any necessary legal action to defend the County Library System from inclusion into the CSA. **We respectfully ask you to cease any action that furthers the progress of the proposed CSA.**

Signed by the President of the ~~Library~~ Friends of the Mendocino County Library Bookmobile:



Michael Schaeffer