

San Mateo County  
Office of Supervisor Gordon

# Memo

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Richard Gordon *RGM*  
DATE: 2/24/2005  
RE: Resolution Supporting the Marine Life Protection Act

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## **Recommendation**

Adopt attached resolution in support of the Marine Life Protection Act.

## **Vision Alignment**

Adoption of this resolution keeps goal number 10 (our important natural resources are preserved and enhanced through environmental stewardship and commitments six (Preserve and Provide People Access to the Natural Environment) and ten (Leaders Work Together Across Boundaries to Preserve and Enhance the Quality of Life).

## **Background**

The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) was adopted by the California legislature in 1999 and incorporated into the state Fish and Game Code. The MLPA established both substantive environmental protection goals and a process for developing a statewide network of marine protected areas in California waters. The goals of the MLPA are to improve protection of California's marine life and ocean habitats.

Implementation of the MLPA was delayed due to California's fiscal crisis. Fortunately, in 2004, outside funding became available via a private/public partnership, allowing the State to restart the MLPA process.

Governor Schwarzenegger released an ocean action plan "Protecting our Ocean: California Action Strategy" in October 2004. The Plan identifies implementation of the MLPA as a top environmental priority for the state. The Governor's Administration also launched a new MLPA Initiative and convened a Blue Ribbon Task Force to assist the state with implementation of the MLPA.

## **Fiscal Impact**

None.