



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
**Inter-Departmental Correspondence**

County Manager's Office

**DATE:** September 3, 2009  
**BOARD MEETING DATE:** September 15, 2009  
**SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING:** None  
**VOTE REQUIRED:** Majority

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** David S. Boesch  
**SUBJECT:** County Manager's Report #11

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution in support of Assembly Bill 249 (Carter), Health facilities: marking patient devices.

**BACKGROUND:**

Existing law requires that long-term care (LTC) convalescent facilities and hospitals institute a theft and loss program of patient private possessions that includes a written inventory of personal property that is held during the resident's stay in the facility.

**DISCUSSION:**

Assembly Bill 249 (Carter) would require institutions that provide convalescent care to patients to mark or otherwise permanently identify, by owner, each patient's privately owned vital mobility, hearing, eating, or breathing equipment by serial number. In addition, the institutions would be required to maintain a log of the equipment.

The legislation would help patients and health facilities distinguish very similar-looking devices and the required log would help patients recover their medical equipment should it be lost or stolen. Law enforcement requires distinguishing characteristics, such as serial numbers, to make reports and to solve crimes.



**Performance Measure(s):**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>FY 2007-08 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2008-09 Projected</b>
<b>Number of legislation related actions taken – County action (sponsor/support/oppose/amend)</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>40</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No significant fiscal impact on or additional change in procedures for San Mateo County.