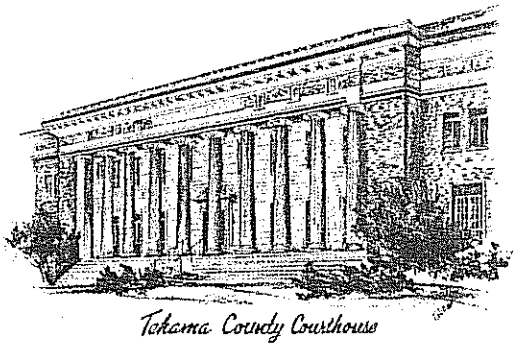
*Board of Supervisors*

# COUNTY OF TEHAMA

*District 1 – Gregg Avilla*
*District 2 – George Russell*
*District 3 – Dennis Garton*
*District 4 – Bob Williams*
*District 5 – Ron Warner*



*Tehama County Courthouse*

*Williams J. Goodwin*
*Chief Administrator*

March 15, 2011

Honorable Jared Huffman
State Capitol
P. O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0006

RE: Support for AB 37 (Huffman)

Dear Assemblyman Huffman:

The Tehama County Board of Supervisors took action this date to voice support for AB 37 (Huffman), which would suspend further installation of wireless advanced metering infrastructure devices, commonly referred to as smart meters, until the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has identified equivalent alternative options to allow customers to opt out of smart meter installation.

Installation of automated metering technology to upgrade the energy infrastructure and create a smart grid was approved by the CPUC in 2006. PG&E has since installed approximately 5.7 million smart meters throughout Northern California. Along with these installations there has been a surge of customer complaints regarding over-billings, inaccuracies, information privacy and concerns about exposure to radio frequency emissions.

Smart meters and creation of the smart grid does not require wireless technology. Consumers should be given an opt-out alternative such as a hard-wired smart meter that provides equivalent smart grid reliability and efficiency. AB 37 will provide this to consumers, along with a requirement that the CPUC disclose smart meter technology information.

Greater energy efficiency and conservation is a worthy goal, which should include providing the public with reasonable choices and accurate, reliable and safe technology information. Thank you for your efforts towards this end.

Sincerely,

Gregg Avilla
Chairman

cc: California State Association of Counties
Regional Council of Rural Counties