

RESOLUTION NO. 2019 –

**RESOLUTION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
IN SUPPORT OF SOLANO COUNTY LAW LIBRARY’S REQUEST FOR FUNDING IN THE
GOVERNOR’S 2020 BUDGET AND IN SUCCESSIVE STATE BUDGETS**

Whereas, county law libraries provide an important public service for all California residents by making legal materials and trained staff available to all its citizens; and

Whereas, for more than 100 years, the Solano County Law Library’s primary mission is to provide open access to legal materials to all members of our community, including solo practitioners and self-represented laypersons; and

Whereas, the laypersons using the Solano County Law Library’s resources are researching on an array of topics that include small claims, evictions, expungement, guardianship and conservatorship without the benefit of paid counsel; and

Whereas, many county law library patrons are not law professionals, rather they are people trying to educate themselves on their rights and maneuver their way through a complex judicial system. Without the Solano County Law Library’s resources, self-represented laypersons would be put at a further disadvantage by not having access to justice; and

Whereas, California county law library funding comes almost exclusively from civil court filing fees; and

Whereas, the filing fee revenue for Solano County Law Library has decreased at 31.94% since FY 2008-2009 and California county law libraries at 31.07%, largely due to a decrease in filings. The decrease can be attributed to, in part, by litigants utilizing mediation tools such as Alternative Dispute Resolution and an increase in the number of fee waivers granted statewide.

Resolved, that the Solano County Board of Supervisors hereby support a request for an ongoing budget allocation in the 2020 California State Budget and successive budgets so that the Solano County Law Library may continue to provide such a vital service to the community. It is hoped that such support may also positively impact other county law libraries throughout the State of California.

Passed and adopted by the Solano County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting December 10, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS _____

NOES: SUPERVISORS _____

EXCUSED: SUPERVISORS _____

ERIN HANNIGAN, Chairwoman
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO, Clerk
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Jeanette Neiger, Chief Deputy Clerk