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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

February 11, 2019

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to reiterate its support for bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform legislation.

The County urges your support for comprehensive immigration reform that secures the borders and improves and simplifies the current legal immigration system. While immigration is a Federal responsibility, counties are directly affected by the costs associated with current immigration policies. Counties provide health, education and public safety to all residents, regardless of immigration status.

Comprehensive immigration reform should include an earned path to citizenship and continuation of protections provided under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The County opposes the forceful separation of families without due process or a plan for reunification. In addition, the County opposes any unfunded Federal mandates or any mandates on counties to enforce immigration laws. Comprehensive immigration reform must support immigrants and refugees who seek opportunity or asylum in the United States according to established legal processes and those sworn to uphold such legal processes.

Thank you for your attention to these requests as Congress takes up immigration legislation.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilchrest
Washington Representative

DWG: awg