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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

March 12, 2019

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
 United States Senate
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I have sent the enclosed letters on behalf of the County of Ventura to members of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations in support of the highest level of funding possible for local public safety needs in the *FY 2020 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations* bill.

Thank you for your support for State and local law enforcement programs in the FY 2019 Consolidated Appropriations Act. Please continue to support these programs in FY 2020 since the Administration's budget request proposes significant reductions in funding for several public safety programs of significance to local governments, including COPS, DNA programs, and Juvenile Justice. The proposed elimination of SCAAP is particularly troubling because of the impact of criminal illegal aliens on the County jail, a direct result of the Federal government's failure to fulfill its immigration-related responsibilities.

In addition to SCAAP, the County requests your support for the highest level of funding possible for local public safety needs in FY 2020, including:

- The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program;
- The COPS Community-Oriented Policing Program;
- Juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, including gang prevention;
- Violence against women and human trafficking;
- Prisoner reentry, diversion, and recidivism prevention activities, including those addressing the mentally ill;
- Drug and Veterans Court administration and treatment; and,
- DNA cold case prosecution and forensic laboratory services.

As your subcommittee drafts the FY 2020 CJS spending measure, please work to ensure funding to address the public safety needs of local government entities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Gilchrest". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Gilchrest
Washington Representative

DWG: awg
Enclosures