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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

April 24, 2018

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

We recently sent the enclosed letters to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor-HHS to express support for the Title XX Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Elder Justice Initiative in the *FY 2019 Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations* bill.

Title XX funds are used for several programs of importance to the residents of Santa Barbara County. These include In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Child Welfare Services, and Community Care Licensing. Community action agencies such as the Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara receive critical funding through CSBG, enabling them to partner with a variety of other agencies to provide services to assist low income working families and homeless individuals countywide in maintaining self-sufficiency. This includes services for children, teens, and seniors, as well as home energy assistance.

The County also supports a dedicated stream of Federal funding for the Elder Justice Initiative. Support for Adult Protective Services, data collection, and research would greatly assist in responding to the over 1700 reported cases of elder and dependent adult abuse each year in Santa Barbara County.

Please continue to work with your colleagues on the Subcommittee to fund SSBG and CSBG at least at the current level in the *FY 2019 Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations* bill, and to fund the Elder Justice Initiative.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilchrest
Washington Representative

DWG: awg
Enclosures