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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

March 14, 2019

The Honorable Assemblymember Laura Friedman
Chair, Assembly Committee on Natural Resources
State Capitol, Room 2137
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 409 (Limon) Climate Change: Agriculture: grant program - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Friedman:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to state our support for AB 409 (Limon), which would establish a competitive grant program in the Office of Planning and Research to develop climate adaptation planning tools and trainings for agricultural producers.

The farms and ranches in the State of California are uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of a changing climate. To assess relevant climate risks and adaptation strategies and integrate them into their business planning and decision-making, farmers and ranchers need science-based, farm-level planning tools and trained technical assistance providers to work with them. This is especially true for small and moderately scaled, and of disadvantaged farmers and ranchers who do not have equal access to technical assistance and, on average, have fewer resources to adapt to climate change.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a 2019 Legislative Platform that includes a Fiscal Stability Legislative Principle, which specifically states that the County will support the generation of new intergovernmental revenue.

For these reasons, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors is pleased to support AB 409 (Limon). If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Dennis Bozanich at 805-568-3403 or dbozanich@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg

Governmental Advocates, Inc.

cc: The Honorable Assemblymember Monique Limon, Author

Members, Assembly Committee on Natural Resources
Michael Jarred, Senior Consultant, Assembly Committee on Natural Resources
Katie Sperla, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
The Honorable Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 13th Senate District
The Honorable Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Dennis Bozanich, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors