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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

September 23, 2019

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of legislation to reauthorize the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program.

PILT provides critical resources to nearly 1,900 counties across 49 states to offset lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal lands within their jurisdictions. These dollars go toward supporting many critical services that counties are required to provide on federal public lands such as the costs of search and rescue, law enforcement, and road maintenance.

Senator Wyden recently introduced S. 2480, the *PILT Reauthorization Act of 2019*, which would provide a ten-year authorization for the program. While Congress has recently provided funding for PILT through annual appropriations bills, the County supports authorizing legislation to provide a long-term, sustainable future for this program. Please support enactment of legislation such as S. 2480 to ensure that the program continues to help offset the impacts of national forests and other public lands in the County.

Thank you for your continued support for PILT.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilcrest
Washington Representative

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