

Attachment 2B:
Copies of Advocacy Letters

SALUD CARBAJAL

First District, Chair

JANET WOLF

Second District

DOREEN FARR

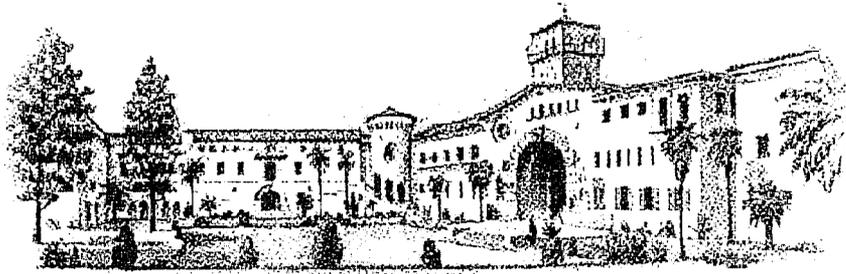
Third District

PETER ADAM

Fourth District

STEVE LAVAGNINO

Fifth District, Vice Chair



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County Administration Building

105 East Anapamu Street

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Telephone: (805) 568-2190

www.countyofsb.org

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry
SR-328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chair:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to request your support for an extension of the Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report.

The County strongly supports legislation to provide mandatory funding for PILT. This funding partially offsets the impacts of national forests and other public lands in the County, such as the costs of search and rescue, law enforcement, and road maintenance.

Although legislation was enacted to provide full funding for PILT through last year, the FY 2014 Omnibus spending bill did not include resources to extend this vital program. As a result, the County is facing a cut-off of funds in June unless mandatory funding is included in the Farm Bill.

Mandatory funding for PILT is needed because Federal land is not taxable by local governments. Local communities in California and throughout the nation continue to undergo very stressful budget situations due to limited revenues, making these programs more important than ever.

Thank you for your assistance including a renewal of the PILT program in the final Farm Bill conference report.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Walters
Washington Representative

TPW:dwg

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First District, Chair

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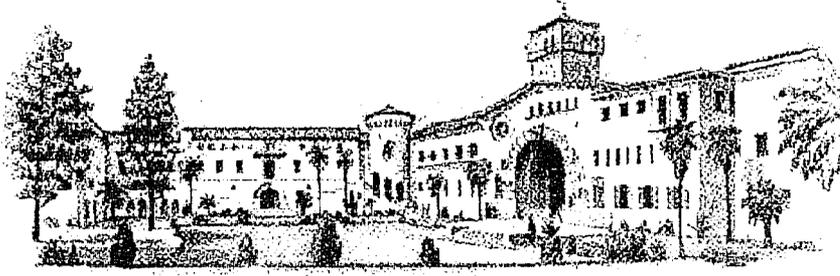
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry
SR-328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cochran:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to request your support for an extension of the Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report.

The County strongly supports legislation to provide mandatory funding for PILT. This funding partially offsets the impacts of national forests and other public lands in the County, such as the costs of search and rescue, law enforcement, and road maintenance.

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Washington Representative

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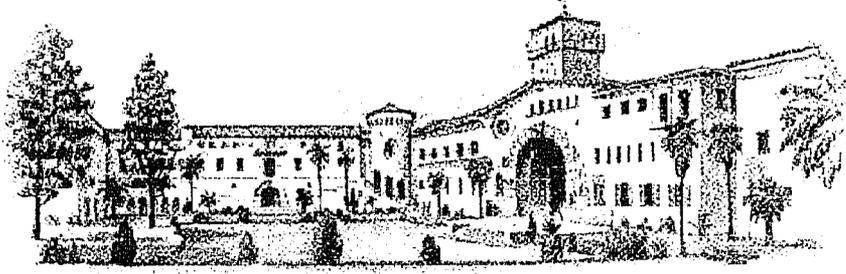
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Frank Lucas, Chairman
Committee on Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to request your support for an extension of the Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report.

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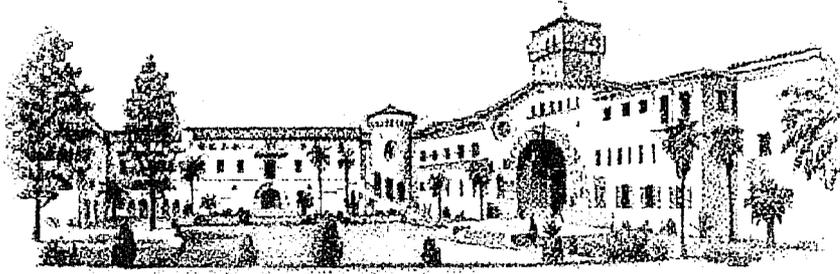
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Collin Peterson
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Agriculture
1305 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to request your support for an extension of the Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report.

The County strongly supports legislation to provide mandatory funding for PILT. This funding partially offsets the impacts of national forests and other public lands in the County, such as the costs of search and rescue, law enforcement, and road maintenance.

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Washington Representative

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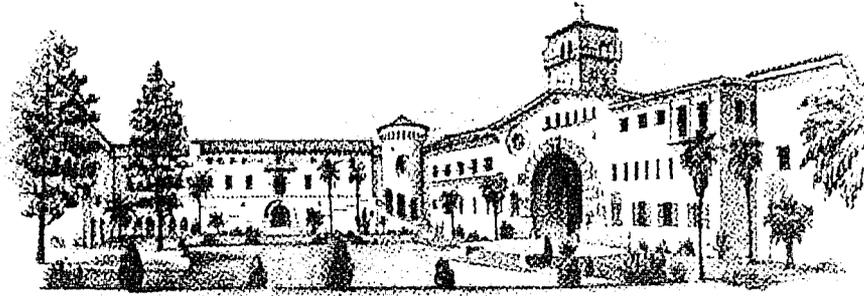
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
SH-112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of legislation to extend the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program.

The County strongly supports including an extension of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report. Attached for your information are letters I have sent to Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Stabenow and Ranking Member Cochran urging their support for this program.

Although legislation was enacted to provide full funding for PILT through last year, the FY 2014 Omnibus spending bill did not include resources to extend this vital program. As a result, the County is facing a cut-off of funds in June unless mandatory funding is included in the Farm Bill.

Please work with your colleagues who serve on the Committee to ensure mandatory funding for PILT in the Farm Bill.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Walters
Washington Representative

TPW:dwg

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Lois Capps
U.S. House of Representatives
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Lois:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of legislation to extend the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program.

The County strongly supports including an extension of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report. Attached for your information are letters I have sent to House Agriculture Committee Chairman Lucas and Ranking Minority Member Peterson urging their support for this program.

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Thomas P. Walters
Washington Representative

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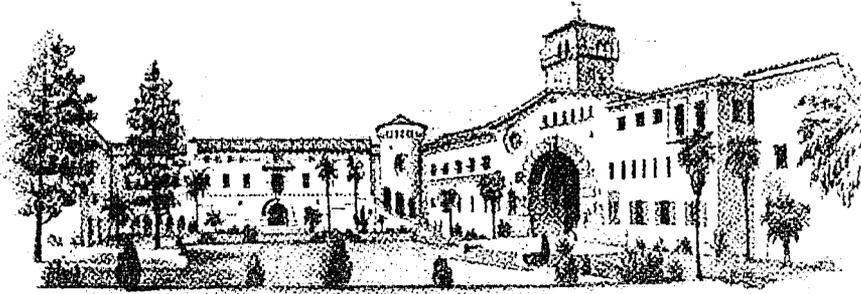
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 24, 2014

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
SH-331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of legislation to extend the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program.

The County strongly supports including an extension of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program in the final Farm Bill Conference report. Attached for your information are letters I have sent to Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Stabenow and Ranking Member Cochran urging their support for this program.

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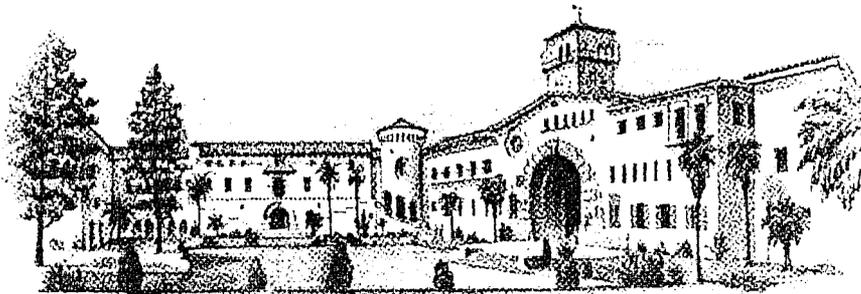
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 27, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
SH-112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to express their support of S. 1813, the *Earthquake Insurance Affordability Act*. Thank you for your reintroduction of this legislation.

Californians need greater access to affordable earthquake insurance. In California, 88 percent of homes insured for fire do not have earthquake insurance. In the event of an earthquake, the lack of homeowner earthquake insurance coverage will slow recovery, and create economic hardship. It is important that States improve the affordability, availability, and quality of earthquake insurance so that more homeowners will purchase coverage. Insurance protection is believed to be key to a faster recovery for homeowners, which will be essential to rebuilding communities.

Thank you again for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters
Washington Representative

TPW:sbm

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Second District, Vice Chair

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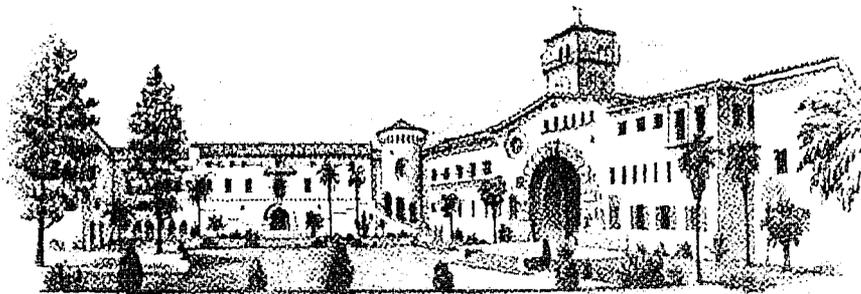
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 27, 2014

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
United States Senate
SD-534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Crapo:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to express their support of S. 1813, the *Earthquake Insurance Affordability Act*, which would lower costs for Californians purchasing earthquake insurance.

Californians need greater access to affordable earthquake insurance. In California, 88 percent of homes insured for fire do not have earthquake insurance. In the event of an earthquake, the lack of homeowner earthquake insurance coverage will slow recovery, and create economic hardship. It is important that States improve the affordability, availability, and quality of earthquake insurance so that more homeowners will purchase coverage. This legislation seeks to make earthquake insurance more accessible to Californians which will increase the number of insured homeowners, thus reducing the risk to taxpayers who may otherwise bear significant costs in the aftermath of a catastrophic earthquake. Insurance protection is believed to be key to a faster recovery for homeowners, which will be essential to rebuilding communities.

The County respectfully requests that you expedite action on S. 1813 or similar legislation that would lower earthquake insurance costs for Californians. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters
Washington Representative

TPW:sbm

SALUD CARBAJAL

First District

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Second District, Vice Chair

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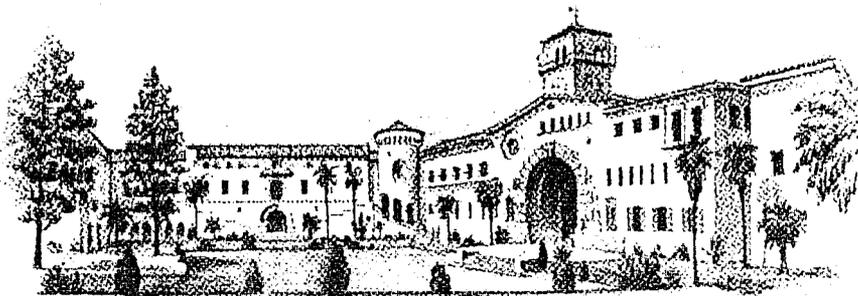
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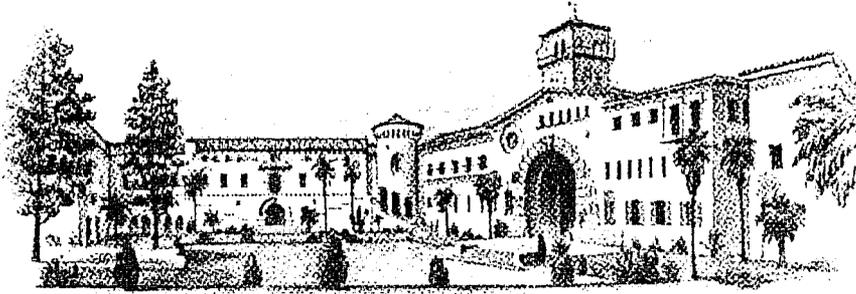
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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

January 27, 2014

The Honorable Tim Johnson, Chairman
Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
United States Senate
SD-534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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