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County of Placer

Board of Supervisors

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District 5



March 10, 2009

The Honorable Ted Gaines
California State Assembly
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support: - Assembly Bill 268 –Septic System Regulations

Dear Assemblyman Gaines:

The Placer County Board of Supervisors (Board) has voted unanimously to support your Assembly Bill 268 that would repeal Chapter 4.5 commencing with Section 13290, of Division 7 of the California State Water Code regarding onsite wastewater treatment systems regulations.

In 2000, AB 885 (Jackson, Statutes of 2000) was enacted to require the State Water Resources Control Board to promulgate regulations or standards for the permitting and operation of onsite wastewater treatment systems by January 1, 2004. In November 2008, eight years after enactment of the legislation, the State Water Resources Control Board released draft regulations for public comment. Unfortunately, the draft regulations would create onerous requirements on municipalities and property owners and would not recognize the differing complex geography, hydrogeology, and other characteristics and needs of communities throughout the state.

Placer County has existing onsite wastewater treatment system standards to assure that onsite wastewater treatment systems do not impact local and regional water quality. The Placer County local ordinance was specifically adopted to address local geographic and hydrogeological conditions while assuring the protection of public and environmental health.

The Board values and supports the protection of our unique resources and believes that the statutory and regulatory framework in place prior to AB 885 is working. Assembly Bill 268 recognizes that and would ensure the protection of public health for onsite wastewater treatment systems in the county.

On behalf of the Board, I thank you for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rocky", written over a horizontal line.

F.C. "Rocky" Rockholm, Chairman
Placer County Board of Supervisors

cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Senator Sam Aanstad, 4th District
State Senator Dave Cox, 1st District
State Assembly Member Dan Logue, 3rd District
State Assembly Member Jim Nielsen, 2nd District
State Assembly Member Paul Cook, 65th District
State Assembly Member Kevin Jeffries, 66th District
State Assembly Member Roger Niello, 5th District
Regional Council of Rural Counties
California State Association of Counties
Placer County Water Agency
Placer-Nevada County Medical Society
Don Peterson, Placer County Advocate