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October 22, 2014

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

RE: Department of the Interior's Payment sin Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Program

Dear Senator Boxer:

On behalf of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully request your help and support in developing a funding solution for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program. The current authorization for PILT expired on September 30, 2014 and without congressional action, the loss of funding will impact our ability to provide essential services to residents and visitors.

Placer County is one of nearly 1,900 counties in 49 states and three U.S. territories that receive PILT funding. The federal government owns approximately 41 percent of all land in Placer County, and these lands are not taxable. For Placer County, the loss is $621,011 based on FY 2014 funding levels. PILT helps to offset these losses in tax revenues that are essential for funding services such road and bridge maintenance, law enforcement, fire protection and emergency medical services.

Currently the House Interior, Environment and Related Agencies subcommittee appropriations bill includes $442 million for PILT as a one-year extension of mandatory spending. However, the Senate has no comparable measure. I urge you to work with your colleagues and leadership to ensure that we can continue to provide services necessary to keep our nation's counties healthy, vibrant, safe and resilient.

Placer County stands ready to work with you to develop a funding solution for PILT for Fiscal Year 2015 and beyond. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Allison Carlos of the Placer County Executive Office at (530) 889-4027 or acarlos@placer.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

COUNTY OF PLACER

Jack Duran, Chairman
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Senate Dianne Feinstein
The Honorable Tom McClintock
The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
Placer County Board of Supervisors
David Boesch, Placer County Executive Officer
Holland and Knight
California Association of Counties
Rural County Representatives of California