June 6, 2022

Senator Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Budget Committee

Senator Bob Wieckowski  
Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee #2

Assemblymember Phil Ting  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #3

Re: Support for Legislative Budget Package Proposals

Dear Budget Committee Leadership,

As the state faces the increasing threats that come with climate change, we have a responsibility to Californians to establish new initiatives and reinforce existing projects that will protect our residents in the long term. Counties respectfully request significant state investments supporting disaster recovery, climate resilience, water, and drought. Californians deserve to not just recover from the stress and pain of the ongoing pandemic, but to thrive in healthy communities across the state going forward.

The legislative compromise includes a number of county priorities, from Williamson Act contracts, to dam safety, to air quality. Specifically, we strongly support the following package proposals:

- $25 million, one-time, for Williamson Act Contracts.
- $100 million for dam safety.
- Extension of the Proposition 1E flood project extension of liquidation to ensure projects in progress may continue.
- $40 million in 2022-23 and $300 million ongoing for AB 617 local air quality programs.
- $2 million for UC Extension fire advisors through CalFIRE program funding.
- $330 million for CalRecycle circular economy with funding to organic waste, and rural and underserved recycling support.
If you have any questions regarding our position, please free to contact me at 916-662-6400, or cfreeman@counties.org.

Sincerely,

Catherine Freeman
Senior Legislative Representative

Cc:
Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Members, Assembly Budget Committee
Elisa Wynne, Staff Director, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Kirk Feely, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Joseph Shinstock, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Joanne Roy, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Shy Forbes, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Kirstin Kolpitcke, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Emily Reeb, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Karen Douglas, Senior Policy Advisor for Energy, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Erika Li, Chief Deputy Director, Budget, California Department of Finance