



California State Association of Counties  
1100 K Street, Suite 101  
Sacramento, CA 95814

June 16, 2008

The Honorable Dan Lungren  
2448 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Lungren:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), I am writing to thank you for your recent vote in favor of HR 3058, the Public Lands Communities Transition Act of 2008. As the only California Republican to support this legislation on the floor of the House, CSAC applauds you for your leadership and courage in voting to protect the state's forest counties.

As you know, California's forest counties and schools are facing an imminent fiscal crisis. With the expiration of the latest extension of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Act set to expire this fall, a number of counties in California are in the process of preparing massive budget cuts. These cuts will include employee lay-offs, contract cancellations, the curtailing of sheriff's patrols, library closures, and the elimination of mental health care services.

As the current economic downturn worsens in many areas across California and the nation, it is now more important than ever that Congress act on a multi-year renewal of the SRS program. Because funding under the SRS comprises a significant portion of many of California's forest counties' budgets, reauthorization of the Act is critically important to the very survival of many of the rural communities within these counties.

Thank you again for your courage and leadership on this important issue. We look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul McIntosh".

Paul McIntosh  
Executive Director  
California State Association of Counties