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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

September 22, 2020

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
U.S. House of Representatives
1431 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Carbajal:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of H.R. 4447, the *Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act*.

H.R. 4447 includes numerous provisions to promote the development of clean energy, increase the energy efficiency of buildings, and support carbon capture and greenhouse gas reduction. Among these provisions, the bill would expand research and development programs for renewable and alternative energy sources and support the use of clean energy technologies. The provisions related to electric vehicle infrastructure and zero-emission vehicles would also help reduce pollution and preserve the environment through energy conservation.

The County supports efforts to foster communitywide sustainability by promoting economic stability and environmental protection and stewardship through participation in the growing green economy. This includes efforts to catalyze community renewal, redevelopment and reinvestment, incubate and support innovative businesses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and incentivize energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy. In 2015, the County adopted an Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP) to reduce GHG emissions to 15 percent below baseline levels (2007) by 2020. The ECAP includes 50 emission reduction measures across a comprehensive range of areas of the economy. The initiatives in H.R. 4447 would provide important support for these efforts and are needed now more than ever to transform the economy and address climate change.

H.R. 4447 would provide substantial assistance to the County’s efforts to engender healthy communities by balancing social well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental responsibility.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilcrest
Washington Representative

DWG: awg