February 15, 2018

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I have sent the enclosed letters to members of the Senate Agriculture Committee on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, urging them to include the following priorities as the draft the next Farm Bill:

Agriculture-Related Priorities

• Protect existing revenue sources as provided in Section 10007 of 2014 Farm Bill to enhance state and federal funding of Pest Prevention Program activities.
• Protect policies and funding for Title I, II, III, IV, and X, and provide increased funding for assistance to producers of specialty crops grown in Santa Barbara County.
• Support the strengthening of inspections at borders and ports of entry to safeguard against invasive pests and diseases.
• Support provisions to hold and inspect packages profiled by detector dogs at U.S. Postal facilities.

Nutrition-Related Priorities

• Provide the highest possible authorized level for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which serves over 36,000 low-income individuals in Santa Barbara County.
• Reauthorize and fully fund the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program, which currently serves 37.6% of young children in the County.

Please urge your colleagues who serve on the Committee to support inclusion of the County’s priorities in the final bill. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilchrest  
Washington Representative

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