Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to express their support for funding of local public health responsibilities in the FY 2020 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill.

The County requests your support for programs that promote healthy behaviors and activities, assist disaster preparedness and emergency medical response, and prevent harmful health conditions and ensure access to health care. Specific public health programs of importance to the County include:

- CDC’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Hospital Preparedness funding;
- CDC’s Community Prevention Grants;
- Community health centers;
- 340B Drug Discount Program;
- Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant;
- Tuberculosis control and prevention;
- Title X Family planning;
- Substance abuse block grants;
- Section 317 immunization programs;
- Mental health block grants;
- Preventative health services block grants;
- Prevention & Public Health Fund;
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS programs, including ADAP (Part B);
- Health care safety net grants; and
- Community-based health and nutrition services for Older Americans.
State and local governments form the foundation of our nation’s public health system and are an integral part of any emergency response plan. Please continue to work with your colleagues to ensure that public health is funded at the highest possible level in FY 2020.

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilchrest
Washington Representative

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