

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

October 26, 2021

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Carbajal:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara in support of the bipartisan S. 3011, the *State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act*.

S. 3011 would greatly assist the County in recovering from the devastating effects of COVID-19 within our local communities. This legislation would provide the County with the flexibility to invest a portion of the funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act’s Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in transportation, infrastructure and government services. This flexibility would have a dramatic impact by enabling investments within our community in compliance with the existing guidance for these funds.

Counties and other local governments are working diligently to invest Recovery Funds in the pandemic recovery but the current prohibitions on the use of these funds have slowed some projects and programs. Under S. 3011, the County of Santa Barbara would be allowed to use up to \$26 million of the County’s \$86 million allocation for transportation and infrastructure projects and \$10 million would receive greater flexibility for general government uses. This would greatly leverage these federal funds for response and recovery as intended by Congress when they were originally enacted.

Thank you for your consideration and your support.

Sincerely yours,

Don Gilchrest
Washington Representative

DWG: awg