



# County of Fresno

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman  
**Sal Quintero**  
District Three

Vice-Chairman  
**Andreas Borgeas**  
District Two

**Brian Pacheco**  
District One

**Buddy Mendes**  
District Four

**Nathan Magsig**  
District Five

**Bernice E. Seidel**  
Clerk

August 21, 2018

The Honorable Tom McClintock  
United States House of Representatives  
2312 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: Funding - FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Bill – SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman McClintock:

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors is pleased to express strong support for funding included in the FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies bill. We are fortunate to have members of the Fresno Legislative Delegation serve on the House Appropriations Committee as well as on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Since both the House and Senate have passed this funding bill (July 19th and August 1<sup>st</sup>, respectively) we would like to highlight the key items included in the bill that are important to Fresno County. In those instances where funding levels are higher in the Senate version, the County would ask that the Senate version be supported in conference. The programs of greatest importance to Fresno County are as follows:

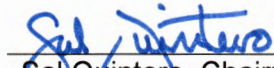

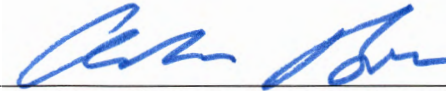
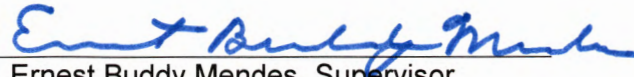
- **Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding:** Both the House and Senate bills include full funding for the Department of Interior's PILT program which provides payments to counties to offset lost property tax revenues due to the presence of non-taxable federal lands within their jurisdictions. This funding is necessary to support essential government services such as transportation infrastructure, law enforcement and health care. Approximately 1.5 million acres of Fresno County land is non-taxable federal land; therefore, full funding of this program is extremely important to the County.
- **U.S. Forest Service (USFS) funding:** The House bill includes \$6.1 billion for the USFS; the Senate level is \$6.3 billion. The House funds the USFS wildfire accounts at \$500 million more than the 10-year average suppression costs while the Senate Wildfire fund is at a 10-year average plus \$900 million for USFS wildfire suppression costs. Given the devastating impacts of the wildfires throughout California and with approximately 1.5 million acres of forest lands in Fresno County, the USFS funding is vital to address wildfires risks and improve safety.
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- **Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS):** As owners, users and regulators of water resources and infrastructure, counties have been directly impacted by the 2015 definition of WOTUS, which has been fraught with legal challenges. Therefore, we are pleased that the House bill fully repeals the WOTUS regulation originally finalized in 2015. However, the Senate version does not repeal WOTUS; therefore, we request that its repeal be supported in conference.

Fresno County supports this bill and requests your support of the higher funding levels as noted above and the repeal of WOTUS. Thank you for your work on behalf of Fresno County and your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

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August 21, 2018

The Honorable Kamala D. Harris, Senator  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: Funding - FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Bill – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Harris:

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors is pleased to express strong support for funding included in the FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies bill. We are fortunate to have members of the Fresno Legislative Delegation serve on the House Appropriations Committee as well as on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Since both the House and Senate have passed this funding bill (July 19th and August 1<sup>st</sup>, respectively) we would like to highlight the key items included in the bill that are important to Fresno County. In those instances where funding levels are higher in the Senate version, the County would ask that the Senate version be supported in conference. The programs of greatest importance to Fresno County are as follows:

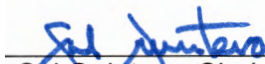
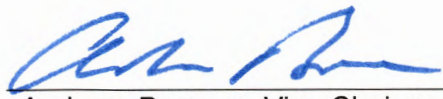

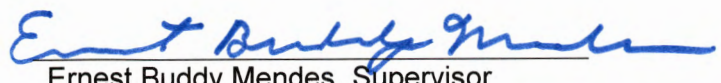

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August 21, 2018

The Honorable Jim Costa, Congressman  
United States House of Representatives  
2081 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: Funding - FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Bill – SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman Costa:

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors is pleased to express strong support for funding included in the FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies bill. We are fortunate to have members of the Fresno Legislative Delegation serve on the House Appropriations Committee as well as on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Since both the House and Senate have passed this funding bill (July 19th and August 1<sup>st</sup>, respectively) we would like to highlight the key items included in the bill that are important to Fresno County. In those instances where funding levels are higher in the Senate version, the County would ask that the Senate version be supported in conference. The programs of greatest importance to Fresno County are as follows:

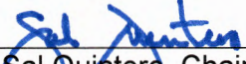


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August 21, 2018

The Honorable David G. Valadao, Congressman  
United States House of Representatives  
1728 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: Funding - FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Bill – SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman Valadao:

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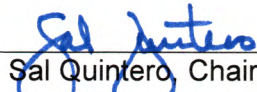
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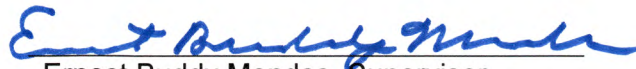
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August 21, 2018

The Honorable Devin Nunes, Congressman  
United States House of Representatives  
1013 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Dear Congressman Nunes:

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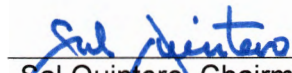
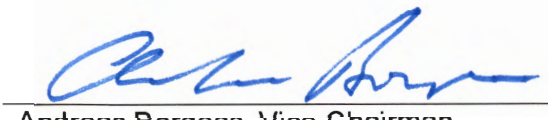

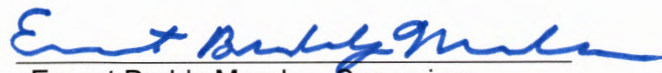
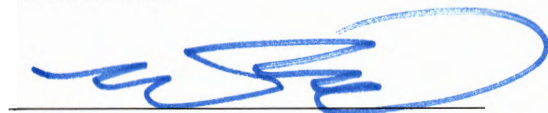
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August 21, 2018

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Senator  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: Funding - FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Bill – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors is pleased to express strong support for funding included in the FY 2019 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies bill. We are fortunate to have members of the Fresno Legislative Delegation serve on the House Appropriations Committee as well as on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Since both the House and Senate have passed this funding bill (July 19th and August 1<sup>st</sup>, respectively) we would like to highlight the key items included in the bill that are important to Fresno County. In those instances where funding levels are higher in the Senate version, the County would ask that the Senate version be supported in conference. The programs of greatest importance to Fresno County are as follows:

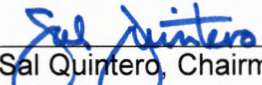

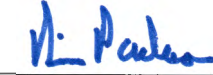
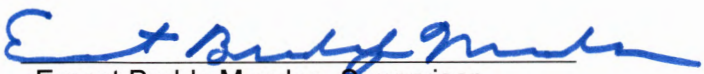
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