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LANCE M. LARSON
Director of Legislative Affairs

April 23, 2009

The Honorable John Perez
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **AB 1139 (John A. Perez) – As Amended 4/13/09 - OPPOSE**

Dear Assemblyman Perez:

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors has reviewed AB 1139, your legislation addressing the Enterprise Zone Program. Regretfully, the County of San Bernardino cannot support the bill because this legislation would make the costs of participating in the Enterprise Zone program far outweigh the benefits.

As amended, AB 1139 will unravel the effectiveness and purpose of the Enterprise Zone Program statewide. It appears this bill is an attempt to impact healthcare policies in the state. Unfortunately, it would instead create unrealistic requirements on businesses who are currently, or who could, take advantage of tax benefits offered only in these economically depressed areas of high unemployment areas (Enterprise Zones). The negative impact of this bill would be catastrophic to economic opportunity and job growth at a time when our economy needs stimulus and more support of economic tools. The impacts not only harm businesses, but the individual employees, and especially the jobs that we so desperately need in California.

In San Bernardino County, the areas that would be negatively impacted by AB 1139 include the Barstow and San Bernardino Valley Enterprise Zone areas including thirty-nine other areas throughout California. For these reasons, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors opposes AB 1139. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lance Larson, the County's Director of Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821. The Board thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

GARY C. OVITT
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.