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LANCE M. LARSON
Director of Legislative Affairs

April 8, 2009

The Honorable Robert Dutton
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SB 430 (Dutton)** - As Introduced 2/26/2009 – **SPONSOR**

Dear Senator Dutton:

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors endorses SB 430 as its bill sponsor. This legislation would authorize the County of San Bernardino Redevelopment Agency to extend the Cedar Glen Disaster Recovery Project Area.

As you know, the “Old Fire” of 2003 devastated the San Bernardino Mountains and almost completely destroyed the unincorporated community of Cedar Glen. Over 1,000 structures were destroyed totaling over \$42 million in damages. The community of Cedar Glen was devastated, 336 structures amounting to approximately 75% of the total number of homes within the community and representing one-third of all structures lost in the region.

In 2004, the County of San Bernardino worked with residents to rebuild their community in a responsible way. The Board of Supervisors created a disaster redevelopment agency encompassing Cedar Glen and overlaid the area with a County Service Area (CSA) improvement zone. The CSA provided the framework to rebuild and maintain the road system, provide better ingress/egress to the community for safety purposes, and to acquire/upgrade the antiquated and financially bankrupt water company that served the area.

As a result of some legal issues stemming from a prohibition against forgiving indebtedness, the satisfaction of the defaulted loan had to be addressed through legislation (AB 2680). Delays in the water company acquisition postponed vital infrastructure improvements. As a result of the delays, the County must complete all projects within a five-year time frame; current projections indicate only three of the four phases would be completed by 2014.

SB 430 would add a new section to the California Health and Safety code, to extend the time limits for incurring debt and project area activities to 15 and 20 years, respectively. The Redevelopment Agency will continue to pass through funds to all affected taxing agencies (the Agency has not been delinquent in any payment to any entity, as reported via AB 1389).

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.

The Honorable Robert Dutton

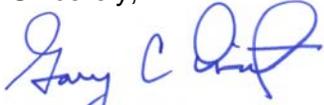
April 8, 2009

Page 2

SB 430 would provide the County of San Bernardino Redevelopment Agency and the residents of Cedar Glen the necessary resources to recover from the devastation that ravaged their community.

For these reasons, the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County supports SB 460. 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