



**COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO**
**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICE**

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Joe Baca
United States House of Representatives
2366 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: H.R. 1042 – The Discredit Eternal Listing Inequality of Species Takings Act (DELIST Act)
SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman Baca:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support H.R. 1042 – The Discredit Eternal Listing Inequality of Species Takings Act, commonly referred as the DELIST Act. One of the main provisions of this bill is amending the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require that certain species be treated as endangered for purposes of that Act if there is not a substantial increase in the population of a species during a 15-year period beginning on the date the species is determined to be an endangered species.

San Bernardino County is acutely impacted by issues related to the Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly, which was first placed on the Endangered Species List in 1993. Since then, the region has not seen a substantial fly population change over the past decade but to date it is still listed as endangered. This listing has caused unneeded regulations which have severely limited economic development in many communities in the Inland Empire. With San Bernardino County’s extreme home foreclosure numbers for the past several years, coupled with a high unemployment rate and an increased number of homelessness, these regulations have made it much more difficult for the region to prosper.

This legislation would require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to give an administrative review of a species after it has been listed as endangered for 15 years. In order for a species to be kept on the Endangered Species List, the review would have to show a substantial increase of the population. H.R. 1042 would also change the definition of endangered to give the Fish and Wildlife Services the ability to call a protected species extinct if the review showed no evidence the species existed any longer.

If proven that substantial evidence exists that the fly is indeed endangered in areas within the Inland Empire, H.R. 1042 will help assist our local communities in their efforts to move forward with critical development projects, and jump start new job creation in these difficult times. For these reasons, San Bernardino County supports the Discredit Eternal Listing Inequality of Species Takings Act. The Board thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

JOSIE GONZALES
Chair, 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.