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GOVERNMENTAL & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

April 25, 2014

The Honorable Jean Fuller
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1289 (Fuller) – As Introduced February 21, 2014 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Fuller:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 1289, legislation that requests that state-owned land next to Johnson Valley National Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area be transferred to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for supplemental off-highway vehicle (OHV) use.

As you are aware, off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in San Bernardino County has a current economic impact of \$70 million annually. OHV recreation continues to be one of the fastest growing forms of outdoor economic activity, while land available for that activity has been dramatically reduced due to the withdrawal of public lands for special status, including species protection, wilderness designations, and most recently, large scale solar projects.

With the passage of the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act, H.R. 3304, approximately 100,000 acres in Johnson Valley are preserved for OHV recreation use while balancing the needs of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms for expanded training. SB 1289 builds upon that success and ensures that off-highway vehicle recreation is preserved for future generations.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports SB 1289 and thanks you for addressing this important issue. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Janice Rutherford

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Board of Supervisors Chair
Second District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

Handwritten signature of James Ramos

JAMES RAMOS
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: Members and Consultants, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation