



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

September 6, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1385 (Leyva) – **REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Brown:

The County of San Bernardino respectfully request your signature on SB 1385, by Senator Connie Leyva and sponsored by the County. This legislation would add the December 2, 2015, shooting that occurred at the Inland Regional Center to the list of events for which the state share of eligible cost is up to 100 percent of the non-federal financial assistance.

On December 2, 2015, in San Bernardino, California, a horrific mass shooting terrorist attack occurred, killing 14 people – including 13 San Bernardino County government employees – and victimizing hundreds more.

County and City first responders took immediate action to protect those in harm's way. The response was well-orchestrated and saved many lives. In the wake of the tragedy, other immediate decisions had to be made by local elected officials and administrative staff to ensure public safety and the continuity of government. The County and City of San Bernardino, and other responding agencies collectively spent more than \$19 million responding to the mass shooting that occurred on December 2nd.

The California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) oversees California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding, which is the primary funding mechanism available for recovering local costs in response to an act of terrorism. The terrorist attack was an unprecedented event for California and the first terrorist attack that CalOES will determine costs eligible for reimbursement through the CDAA. Typically, the state provides 75% reimbursement of eligible costs and local government is responsible for the remaining 25%.

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A significant portion of the \$19 million has been considered ineligible, leaving the County and other agencies, including the City of San Bernardino that recently filed for bankruptcy, burdening the cost for the event. SB 1385 will provide 100% reimbursement to recover eligible costs expended in response to this tragic event, ensuring the local agencies that heroically responded are able to help towards recovering financially and focus on the safety and well-being of their residents.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully requests your signature. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Ramos', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: The Honorable Connie Leyva