



May 21, 2010

1100 K Street
Suite 101
Sacramento
California
95814

Telephone
916.327-7500

Facsimile
916.441.5507

Dear Members of the California Congressional Delegation:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) strongly supports the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act (HR 4213). California's 58 counties continue to face historic service demands and declining revenues with which to meet them. The massive cuts proposed last week by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger would shift to counties even more unfunded responsibilities. Provisions in the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act would provide some relief to California's counties as many prepare for additional rounds of program cuts and staffing reductions.

CSAC supports a number of provisions within H.R. 4213. They include:

Build America Bonds (BABs): CSAC supports the provision to extend the Build America Bonds program through 2012. California's local governments have utilized BABs to advance capital projects, including work on public buildings, housing and infrastructure, government health/safety facilities, and water, environment, and energy projects.

Recovery Zone Bonds: CSAC supports the provision increasing through 2011 the bond authority and expanding local government eligibility for local economic development projects. This increase will ensure that local governments receive a minimum allocation equal to at least their share of national unemployment in December 2009, instead of the net job-loss formula under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Extending Enhanced Federal Funds for Medicaid and Foster Care: CSAC supports the provision extending the higher federal match for Medicaid and IV-E foster care through June 30, 2011. Continuing ARRA funding for these two programs will help the State and its counties to continue providing health services to low-income families and foster care payments to foster families.

Extending Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Funding: CSAC supports the bill's extension of the TANF Emergency Fund. This has become more important in recent days, given the Governor's proposal to eliminate entirely California's CalWORKS program.

California's counties are proud of their commitment to the subsidized jobs component of the Fund. Under the program, counties have created nearly 19,000 jobs within the last few months. CSAC also supports the provision its county members proposed to allow current year funding of subsidized employment to carry over into the next federal fiscal year.

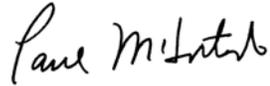
Summer Youth Employment: CSAC supports the \$1 billion investment in a summer youth employment program. The teenage unemployment rate of approximately 25 percent is alarmingly high. A federal investment providing jobs to youth not only helps them in the near-term, it serves to give them workplace experience useful for future employment opportunities.

California's counties have made very difficult choices in the past few years to cut budgets and staff. Given the severe budget stress our members are experiencing and the upcoming budget

proposed by the Schwarzenegger administration, CSAC urges the House to pass this measure expeditiously.

If your staff has any questions, please have them contact Tom Joseph, CSAC's Washington Representative for Health and Human Services at tj@wafed.com or Joe Krahn, CSAC's Washington Representative for Infrastructure at jk@wafed.com. Both may be reached by phone at 202.898.1444.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul McIntosh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul McIntosh
Executive Director
California State Association of Counties