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United States Senate

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March 25, 2011



The Honorable Steve Pougnet
Mayor, City of Palm Springs
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Mayor Pougnet:

As a former county supervisor, I know first-hand how critically important the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is to California's cities and counties.

That is why I recently joined a group of colleagues in writing to Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Daniel Inouye and Vice-Chairman Thad Cochran, urging them to preserve funding for this vital and effective economic development program. (A copy of our letter is enclosed.)

These difficult economic times have placed enormous strains on state and local budgets. In order to maintain basic services and assistance to low- and moderate-income families in California and across the nation, we must continue CDBG formula funding at the Fiscal Year 2010 level of \$3.948 billion.

Over the past six years, CDBG investments have created or retained 259,346 jobs for low- and moderate-income persons. Although Congress must take steps to reduce the federal deficit, it is essential that we not do so in ways that will cost jobs and harm our fragile economy, or hurt the most vulnerable among us.

As the appropriations process for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012 continues to unfold, be assured that I will keep working to preserve federal funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boxer
United States Senator