



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

January 14, 2014

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-204, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Doc Hastings  
Chairman  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
1324, Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
2134, Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Hastings and Ranking Member DeFazio:

We are writing to share our concern that the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program was not included in the Fiscal Year 2014 Omnibus spending bill released by House and Senate Appropriators. In light of this omission, we strongly urge the authorizing committee, the House Committee on Natural Resources, to ensure the PILT program continues to receive mandatory funding in Fiscal Year 2014. If the authorizing committee of jurisdiction is not able to move swiftly, we encourage House leadership to find other legislative vehicles to protect this vital program.

For over thirty years, the PILT program has provided vital funding to counties and other local governments to offset losses in tax revenues due to the presence of substantial acreage of federal land in their jurisdictions. Since federal lands are not subject to taxation by local governments, local governments heavily rely on the PILT program payments to help offset the costs incurred by counties for providing essential services to residents such as education, solid waste disposal, law enforcement, search and rescue and other vital services.

Failure to expedite PILT funding will leave local governments with added financial hardships in already struggling local coffers. The lack of funding certainty hurts a local government's ability to most efficiently provide for the health and safety of constituents. It is imperative for our local

governments to best serve our constituents in an efficient and pragmatic manner, providing funding certainty is the first step.

Respectfully,

*Gloria Negrete McLeod*

Gloria Negrete McLeod  
Member of Congress

*Paul Cook*  
Member of Congress

*James*  
Member of Congress

*Julia Brawley*  
Member of Congress

*Lori Lipp*  
Member of Congress

*Loretta Sanchez*  
Member of Congress

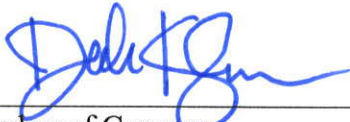
*Mark Zales*  
Member of Congress

*Juan Vargas*  
Member of Congress

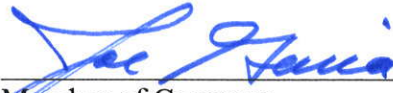
*Y. K. Wilkoff*  
Member of Congress

*Paul G. Li*  
Member of Congress

*William E. Mart*  
Member of Congress



Member of Congress



Member of Congress



Member of Congress

Member of Congress