

California Legislature

October 28, 2013

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of the signed members of the California State Legislative Rural Caucus, we write to respectfully request continued funding of \$4.1 million for the Agriculture Education Incentive Grant program.

California's 315 agricultural programs would be terminated should you eliminate the funding for these dynamic programs. Agriculture students, teachers and farm organizations that benefit from these programs would no longer have a platform for agricultural education throughout the state, in both rural and suburban areas.

Enrollment for agricultural classes continues to climb; today, there are roughly 78,000 California high school students utilizing these programs. The grant funds are utilized to purchase, upgrade and expand the facilities and equipment necessary for students to gain an understanding for California's agricultural industry.

California is the country's largest agricultural producer and exporter. It's because of programs that benefit from the Agriculture Education Incentive Grant Program that we can continue to boast these designations. We strongly believe these programs are necessary for California's future agricultural industry success and we urge you to continue funding the Agriculture Education Incentive Grant program

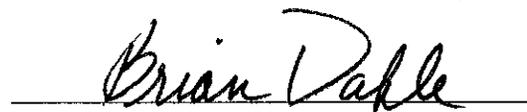
Sincerely,



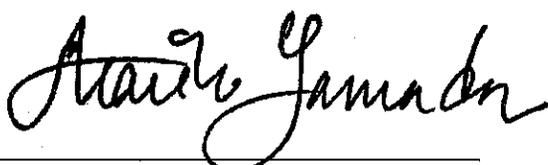
Frank Bigelow
Assemblymember, 5th District
Chair, Legislative Rural Caucus



Adam Gray
Assemblymember, 21st District
Vice Chair, Legislative Rural Caucus



Brian Dahle
Assemblymember, 1st District
Secretary, Legislative Rural Caucus



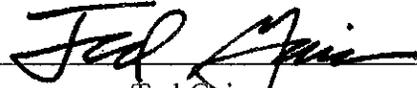
Mariko Yamada
Assemblymember, 4th District



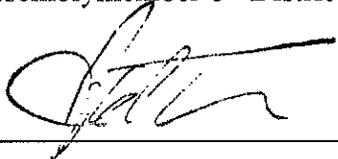
Marie Waldron
Assemblymember, 75th District



Beth Gaines
Assemblymember 6th District



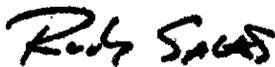
Ted Gaines
Senator, 1st District



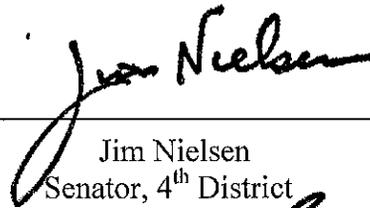
Jim Patterson
Assemblymember, 23rd District



Noreen Evans
Senator, 2nd District



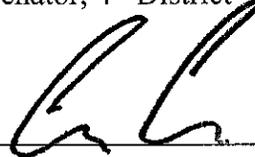
Rudy Salas
Assemblymember, 32nd District



Jim Nielsen
Senator, 4th District



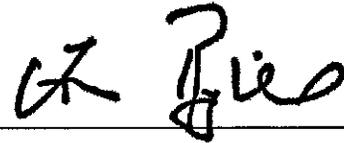
Tim Donnelly
Assemblymember, 33rd District



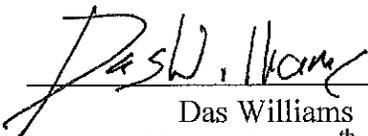
Anthony Cannella
Senator, 12th District



Katcho Achadjian
Assemblymember, 35th District



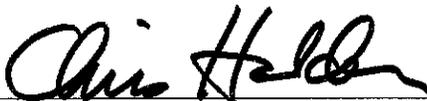
Tom Berryhill
Senator, 14th District



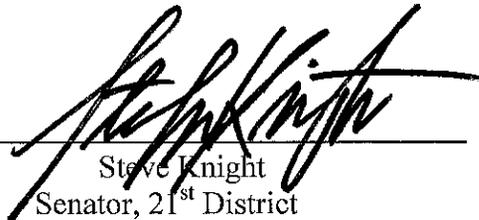
Das Williams
Assemblymember, 37th District



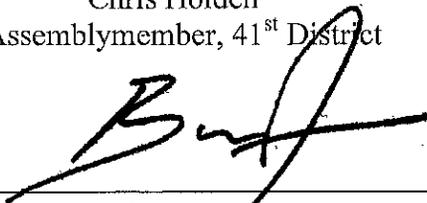
Andy Vidak
Senator, 16th District



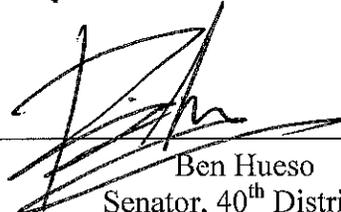
Chris Holden
Assemblymember, 41st District



Steve Knight
Senator, 21st District



Brian Jones
Assemblymember, 71st District



Ben Hueso
Senator, 40th District

Connie Conway

Connie Conway
Assemblymember, 26th District

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Henry Perea
Assemblymember, 31th District