

January 26, 2010

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington DC 20510 – 0504

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The purpose of this letter is to formally state the County of Santa Barbara's support for the California Space Authority's request for Congressional funding, in the amount of \$2 million, for the California Space Center (CSC). This funding is within the 2011 Department of Defense (DoD) National Defense Education Program. The center will inspire students throughout California and the nation to study science, technology, engineering and math, and ensure that the next generation of engineers and scientists are able to compete in the global space arena.

In addition to the significant and unique educational opportunities afforded, the CSC is projected to create 2,994 jobs (direct, indirect, and induced) in Santa Barbara County, in both the public and private sector. Unemployment within the nation, state, and locally are at historically high rates with North County Santa Barbara at 15.5%. This Center will bring much needed and ongoing premier jobs to the region and catalyze future investment.

The California Space Center will tell the story of California's contribution to the space enterprise and pay tribute to California commercial and civil space contributions past, present and future. Further, the Center will increase awareness of California's current role in the Space Technology and inspire our next generation.

Thank you for your consideration of the California Space Authority's request for this unique and exciting project. If you or your staff should have any questions, please contact me at (805) 568-2010 or my staff at (805) 568-3098.

Sincerely,

Janet Wolf
Chair
Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Congresswoman Lois Capps
Congressman Elton Gallegly
Janice Dunn, Deputy Director, California Space Authority