



SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA

July 26, 2012

VIA FACSIMILE (202) 228-3954

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for S. 2283, to Amend the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for Comprehensive and Consistent National Disaster Emergency Management including Tribal Governments

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I write on behalf of the Susanville Indian Rancheria to ask that you support S. 2283. The House bill amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide a federally-recognized Indian tribe authority to submit direct requests to the President of the United States for a federal disaster or emergency declaration. Currently, tribal governments must navigate this process through the governor of their respective state. Respectfully, this process binds a tribal government's ability to act swiftly during emergencies and is not consistent with the government-to-government trust relationship between the United States and Indian Country.

The Susanville Indian Rancheria is located in an extremely rural area approximately 85 miles north of Reno, Nevada along the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Lassen County, California. Our membership includes 982 citizens and our tribal health program serves over 1,700 Lassen County Native Americans. Because we are so rural, it is extremely important that disasters or emergencies be acted upon quickly and that the tribe is allowed to submit direct requests to the President of the United States for a federal disaster or emergency declaration.

S. 2283 will provide tribal governments with equal access to the public safety decision-making power when requesting a federal disaster or emergency declaration. The Susanville Indian Rancheria has been working with FEMA and the National Congress of American Indians to develop this bill which will provide tribal governments equal access to much-needed public safety decision-making power when catastrophic disasters or emergencies impact tribal communities.

July 26, 2012

Thank you for your time and consideration in strengthening tribal self-governance, protecting all citizens of this country, and for support in the passage of S. 2283.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacy Dixon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stacy" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Dixon".

Mr. Stacy Dixon
Tribal Chairman

Cc: Susanville Indian Rancheria Tribal Business Council Members
Susanville Indian Rancheria Natural Resources Department Director
Debbie Ho, Mapetsi Policy Group



SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA

July 26, 2012

VIA FACSIMILE (202) 224-0454

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for S. 2283, to Amend the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for Comprehensive and Consistent National Disaster Emergency Management including Tribal Governments

Dear Senator Boxer:

I write on behalf of the Susanville Indian Rancheria to ask that you support S. 2283. The House bill amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide a federally-recognized Indian tribe authority to submit direct requests to the President of the United States for a federal disaster or emergency declaration. Currently, tribal governments must navigate this process through the governor of their respective state. Respectfully, this process binds a tribal government's ability to act swiftly during emergencies and is not consistent with the government-to-government trust relationship between the United States and Indian Country.

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Mr. Stacy Dixon
Tribal Chairman

Cc: Susanville Indian Rancheria Tribal Business Council Members
Susanville Indian Rancheria Natural Resources Department Director
Debbie Ho, Mapetsi Policy Group



SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA

July 26, 2012

Via U.S. Mail and Facsimile (202-225-5444)

The Honorable Tom McClintock
United States House of Representatives
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for H.R. 2903, to Amend the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for Comprehensive and Consistent National Disaster Emergency Management including Tribal Governments

Dear Congressman McClintock:

I write on behalf of the Susanville Indian Rancheria to ask that you support H.R. 2903. The House bill amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide a federally-recognized Indian tribe authority to submit direct requests to the President of the United States for a federal disaster or emergency declaration. Currently, tribal governments must navigate this process through the governor of their respective state. Respectfully, this process binds a tribal government's ability to act swiftly during emergencies and is not consistent with the government-to-government trust relationship between the United States and Indian Country.

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H.R. 2903 will provide tribal governments with equal access to the public safety decision-making power when requesting a federal disaster or emergency declaration. The Susanville Indian Rancheria has been working with FEMA and the National Congress of American Indians to develop this bill which will provide tribal governments equal access to much-needed public safety decision-making power when catastrophic disasters or emergencies impact tribal communities.

July 26, 2012

Thank you for your time and consideration in strengthening tribal self-governance, protecting all citizens of this country, and for support in the passage of H.R. 2903.

Sincerely,

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Mr. Stacy Dixon
Tribal Chairman

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