## County of El Dorado

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

CINDY KECK......CLERK OF THE BOARD

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June 3, 2008

The Honorable Anna Caballero, Chair Assembly Local Government Committee 1020 N Street, Room 157 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Caballero:

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors wishes to express its support for Senate Bill 1064 by Senator Dennis Hollingsworth.

This bill provides state allocations with respect to property tax revenue reductions due to reassessment as a result of the Angora Fire for the 2007-08 fiscal year. El Dorado County estimates \$64.5 million in decreased assessments due to the Angora Fire in fiscal year 2007-08. This translates into a general fund loss of \$161,000.

The Angora Fire near Lake Tahoe destroyed 254 homes and burned approximately 3,100 acres. Ignited in a dense stand of extremely dry fir and pine by an illegal campfire, the flames quickly transitioned to an active crown fire, and ultimately became the worst fire in the Tahoe Basin in over a century.

In an effort to restore the lives of residents affected by the Fire and protect Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County collaborated with the California Integrated Waste Management Board and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services on a groundbreaking structural debris cleanup program. Working with the private sector, El Dorado County also initiated and managed a hazard tree removal program in the Angora burn area. We are continuing the recovery effort as residents seek to rebuild.

El Dorado County expended approximately \$1.1 million in response, recovery, and restoration efforts related to the Angora Fire. While we hope that some of these costs will be reimbursable, there is no statutory authority to help the County recover from losses as a result of decreased assessments for the current fiscal year.

Given the magnitude of impacts and the potential threats to Lake Tahoe, we hope you will agree that the Angora Fire was a unique experience for El Dorado County and the State of California.

We appreciate your consideration SB 1064 which will greatly assist El Dorado County's financial recovery due to the Angora Fire.

Sincerely,

Rusty Dupray, Chairman El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Dennis Hollingsworth
Senator Dave Cox
Assemblyman Ted Gaines
Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi
Don Peterson, Peterson Consulting Inc.