

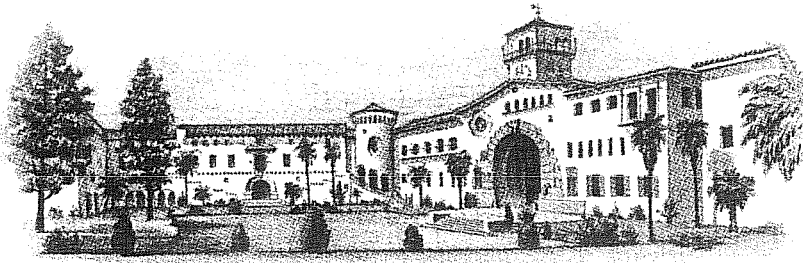
**SALUD CARBAJAL**  
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**JANET WOLF**  
Second District, Vice Chair

**DOREEN FARR**  
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**JONI GRAY**  
Fourth District

**JOSEPH CENTENO**  
Fifth District, Chair



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

April 9, 2009

Honorable Patricia Wiggins, Chair  
Senate Local Government Committee  
State Capitol, Room 4081  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: (916) 323-6958

**Re: Oppose SB170**

Dear Senator Wiggins:

On April 7, 2009, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors formally considered SB170 authored by Senator Florez. While the Board of Supervisors acknowledges and respects the sovereignty of the Santa Ynez Band of the Chumash Indians, the Board, via a 4-1 vote, authorized a letter opposing this legislation.

The County has a long standing tradition of supporting agriculture and preserving open space. The Williamson Act program is a vital component to protecting agriculture and open space. As such, the County cannot support legislation such as SB170 that undermines this program and facilitates a process to enable the cancellation of Williamson Act contracts.

Furthermore, this bill has the potential to place county board of supervisors and city councils in precarious positions of rebutting the presumption made by a federally recognized tribe that tribal cultural centers, housing and infrastructure outweigh the benefits of the Williamson Act objectives.

Therefore, the County respectfully opposes SB170 and requests members of the Senate Local Government Committee vote "no" on this bill. Should this bill move forward, the County requests its delegation also oppose this bill on the floor of the Legislature.

Sincerely,



Joseph Centeno, Chair  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Dave Cox, Vice-Chair, Senate Local Government Committee  
Senator Samuel Aanestad, Member, Senate Local Government  
Committee  
Senator Christine Kehoe, Member, Senate Local Government Committee  
Senator Lois Wolk, Member, Senate Local Government Committee  
Senator Dean Florez  
Assemblymember Sam Blakeslee  
Assemblymember Pedro Nava  
Senator Abel Maldonado  
Senator Tony Strickland  
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
Peter Detwiler, Senate Local Government Committee Consultant  
Monica Miller, Governmental Advocates, Inc.  
Karen Keene, Legislative Representative, CSAC