Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515  
March 24, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-329, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

As the 114th Congress begins its work to enact the fiscal priorities of the United States, we urge you to work in a bi-partisan, bi-cameral fashion to secure full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program for fiscal year (FY) 2016 and beyond. Without the certainty of full funding for the PILT program, counties throughout our districts and across the nation will be unable to provide our constituents with essential services such as education, law enforcement, search and rescue, road maintenance and public health.

While it must be Congress’ ultimate goal to enact a long-term, sustainable solution to eliminate the ongoing uncertainty counties face, full-funding in FY16 for the PILT program is essential to provide our counties with the certainty they need to plan their own 2016 budgets.

PILT provides payments to local governments in 49 states and nearly 1,900 counties to offset foregone revenue due to tax-exempt federal lands within their jurisdictions. Current discretionary appropriations for PILT are set to expire on September 30, 2015. Without congressional action, we risk severely crippling counties’ ability to operate and provide essential services to our constituents.

Full funding of the PILT program will enable the federal government to meet its long-standing obligations to counties with federal land within their jurisdictions. It is imperative that we fulfill this obligation. We thank you for your consideration of this request and stand ready to work with you going forward.

Sincerely,

Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress

Jared Polis  
Member of Congress

Sean P. Duffy  
Member of Congress

Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress
Gwen Graham
Member of Congress

Raúl Grijalva
Member of Congress

Cresen Hardy
Member of Congress

Gregg Harper
Member of Congress

Joe Heck
Member of Congress

Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress

French Hill
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Will Hurd
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Raúl Labrador
Member of Congress

Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress
Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

Mia Love  
Member of Congress

Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress

Ben Ray Luján  
Member of Congress

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Member of Congress

Cynthia Lummis  
Member of Congress

Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress

Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress

Martha McSally  
Member of Congress

Mark Meadows  
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress

Kristi Noem  
Member of Congress

Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress

Steven Palazzo  
Member of Congress

Stevan Pearce  
Member of Congress
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress

Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

Stacey Plaskett  
Member of Congress

Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress

Phil Roe, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress

John Shimkus  
Member of Congress

Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress

Kyrsten Sinema  
Member of Congress

Jason Smith  
Member of Congress

Mark Takano  
Member of Congress

Glenn ‘GT’ Thompson  
Member of Congress

Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress

Scott R. Tipton  
Member of Congress

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress
Norma Torres
Member of Congress

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress

Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress

Steve Womack
Member of Congress

Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress

Evan Jenkins
Member of Congress

Mike Coffman
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress

Roger Williams
Member of Congress

Joe Wilson
Member of Congress

Don Young
Member of Congress

Doug Collins
Member of Congress

Ken Buck
Member of Congress

Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress