



May 17, 2012

The Honorable Cathleen Galgiani
State Capitol Building, Room 5155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for AB 1779 (as amended 4/19/2012)

Dear Assemblymember Galgiani:

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments, representing 22 cities and six counties, supports AB 1779 to allow the 11 counties currently served by the San Joaquin passenger rail service to form a joint powers agency. This authority is an important tool for improving and expanding intercity rail service between our region and the San Joaquin Valley.

We are optimistic about the benefits of a JPA for improving the San Joaquin, and we also recognize some fiscal and governance issues would need to be worked out before a JPA should be formed. We are confident that the Central Valley Rail Working Group can address these issues as they develop a JPA framework, managing agency options, a business case, and possible amendments to AB 1779.

Thank you for authoring this important legislation. We look forward to working with your staff and the Central Valley Rail Working Group on this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike McKeever', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Sacramento Region Legislative Delegation
Assembly Floor Consultants
Senate Transportation & Housing Committee and Consultants
Senate Governance & Finance Committee and Consultants

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