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May 4, 2005

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing to express the League of California Cities' (League) support and appreciation for your leadership on homeland security legislation that would allocate homeland security grants on the basis of risk of terrorism. Your staff's work with our Washington staff is very encouraging and we hope to continue this partnership.

California cities, together with the State and other stakeholders throughout California, have advocated in favor of bringing down the mandatory state minimums. Your draft bill significantly corrects the major formula imbalance that exists in current law by reducing the current state minimums from 0.75% to 0.25%. We would ask that you consider going the extra step and remove minimums altogether, but if there must be a State minimum, we urge that your bill keep it as small as possible. In addition, your bill clarifies the regional approach taken in both the pending Senate and House bills (S. 21 and H.R. 1544).

California cities are on the front lines of the war on terrorism and your legislation is very important to us. We look forward to continuing to work closely with you as you finalize your proposal, as well as providing support for your legislation upon introduction. Thank you for your important efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris McKenzie".

Christopher McKenzie