

California's Rural Counties Including Madera and Mariposa Unite in Urging Congress to Immediately Reauthorize Secure Rural Schools

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23 Counties Join Forces in Statewide Resolution Drive

SACRAMENTO, CA – February 12, 2015 – The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) announced today that 23 of California's rural counties have adopted resolutions urging Congress to immediately reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (SRS). SRS funding mitigates the impact to county governments and schools from the reduction of timber harvesting production on federal forest lands. California's rural communities have come to rely on SRS funding – more than \$33 million statewide (annually) – to support public schools and critical road programs.

“SRS is a critical funding source for California's forested counties, and the other RCRC Officers and I look forward to advocating on behalf of reauthorization during our trip to Washington D.C. later this month,” said Lee Adams, RCRC Chair and Sierra County Supervisor. “Failure to either extend the program or make needed policy changes for the management of our forests is resulting in many school districts cutting vital education programs, and leaving counties with the inability to maintain a healthy county road system.”

Through RCRC, 23 rural California counties have adopted resolutions urging Congress to immediately reauthorize SRS. These counties represent more than 54 percent of California's federally managed land, and