

May 7, 2019

The Honorable Toni Atkins Senate President Pro Tempore Chair, Senate Rules Committee State Capitol, Room 205 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Confirmation of Karen Ross as Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Atkins:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), I am writing to express our support for the confirmation of Ms. Karen Ross as Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). RCRC is an association of thirty-six rural California counties, and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from those member counties.

RCRC believes it is imperative that the Secretary of CDFA have an acute understanding of the importance of working with local governments as partners in preserving and regulating California's agricultural industry. RCRC has had a long and successful relationship with Secretary Ross in her tenure as Secretary. We are confident of her abilities in furthering the State's agriculture stewardship as well as working with local governments to ensure environmental stewardship remains a top priority.

For the above reasons, RCRC strongly supports the confirmation of Secretary Ross. We look forward to continuing our close and productive relationship with her into the future. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Matt Kingsley

Member, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

RCRC Chair

cc: Members of the Senate Rules Committee
Secretary Karen Ross, California Department of Food and Agriculture