

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Wednesday, December 03, 2014

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

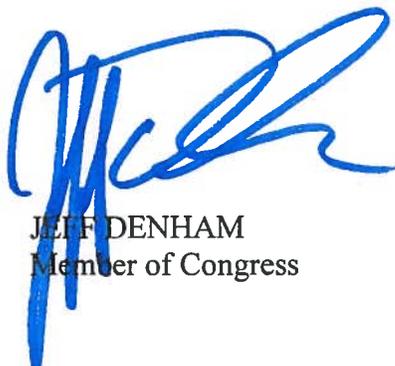
Chairman Rogers,

As you prepare a fiscal year 2015 omnibus spending bill, we'd like to commend you on your commitment to allowing open debate on this nation's funding priorities. An open process allows all Members an opportunity to have their constituents' voices heard on the floor of the House of Representatives, and to obtain votes on matters of critical importance to local communities.

On June 10, 2014 during debate on H.R. 4745, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015; the House of Representatives debated, and voted on, House Amendment 823 to prohibit the use of federal funds within the bill for high-speed rail in the State of California or for the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority). The amendment was adopted by a vote of 227-186, showing a strong commitment from the House that federal funds should not be made available to the California High-Speed Rail Authority. Subsequently H.R. 4745 passed with bipartisan support.

Originally approved in 2008 by voters of California, the project has been modified significantly so that it no longer meets the demands originally laid out by voters. Indeed, a majority of California voters no longer support the project as they have watched the cost balloon from \$33 billion to over \$100 billion before the scope was trimmed to bring the current figure to \$68 billion. Additionally, the Authority has continually failed to keep the project off Ag land or to provide a viable business plan detailing where the money for the project will come from, instead assuming that federal tax payers will foot the bill.

As you work to craft a year end Omnibus Appropriations measure to fund the government for the remainder of the fiscal year, we request that you retain language to prohibit the use of federal funds within the bill for high-speed rail in the State of California or for the California High-Speed Rail Authority.



JEFF DENHAM
Member of Congress



DOUG LAMALFA
Member of Congress



DEVIN NUNES
Member of Congress



PAUL COOK
Member of Congress



ED ROYCE
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JOHN CAMPBELL
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DUNCAN HUNTER
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DANA ROHRABACHER
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HOWARD "BUCK" McKEON
Member of Congress



GARY MILLER
Member of Congress



KEN CALVERT
Member of Congress



FOM McCLINTOCK
Member of Congress