March 7, 2014

The Honorable Eric Swalwell
United States House of Representatives
501 Cannon House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

RE: Support for the Restarting Local Economies Act of 2013

Dear Congressman Swalwell:

On behalf of the League of California Cities, I am pleased to inform you of our support for H.R. 3518, the Restarting Local Economies Act of 2013. This measure expands the eligibility requirements for the federal Economic Adjustment Assistance program to include communities with a closed economic development agency, such as a redevelopment agency, which had projects unfilled due to the closure.

The loss of redevelopment devastated many communities and left a void in available economic development options. Still, cities have accepted the outcome and are moving on. The development of new infrastructure and economic development tools has become a top priority, especially for those areas most economically and physically disadvantaged. H.R. 3518 will play an important role by offering grants to the state’s disadvantaged poorer areas and neighborhoods.

H.R. 3518 will allow more California cities to compete for these important and much needed economic grants. For these reasons we are pleased to support this important measure and thank you for your leadership in this area. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me or our Washington representative, Leslie Pollner at (202) 469-5149.

Sincerely,

Christopher McKenzie
Executive Director