SAM FARR

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **BC** 20515-0517

June 3, 1997

1117 CONGWORTH BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0511 2021 225-2861

DISTRICT OFFICES
380 ALVARADO STREET
MONTEREY, CA 93940

(408) 649-3555 100 WEST ALISAL SALINAS, CA 93901 (408) 424-2229

701 OCEAN STREET ROOM 318 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (408) 429–1978

Jeanne Nordland, Director ACTION-Santa Cruz County 325 Crows Nest Drive Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Dear Ms. Nordland:

I am writing to congratulate you, the Advisory Board and the ACTION Santa Cruz County coalition for completing the "Local Agenda 21" Action Plan. Your efforts are to be commended and will make an important contribution to the future quality of life in Santa Cruz County. I support the principle of sustainable development to balance the needs of economic growth, environmental stewardship and social equity.

The "Local Agenda 21" Action Plan not only has local significance, it also will have regional and national impacts. As you know, the President's Council on Sustainable Development is beginning Phase III of its work with an emphasis on sustainable communities. In addition, I have been spearheading a similar effort, known as *Monterey Bay 21st Century*, to develop a process for sustainable development planning for the entire Monterey Bay region (Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties). I look forward to working with you on opportunities for collaboration among these groups.

In the Monterey Bay Region, we are blessed with a unique and beautiful place in which to live and work. We have a strong commitment to environmental protection and quality education and a strong economy based on agriculture, tourism and marine research and technology. As we move toward the 21st Century, I believe it is an appropriate time to pause and ask ourselves how we will sustain these qualities and build upon them for our descendants. I appreciate your dedication to the goals of sustainable development.



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