



**COUNTY OF LAKE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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April 1, 2025

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
268 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: SUPPORT - H.R. 1383, the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025

Dear Honorable Congressman Thompson,

We are writing to express our deepest gratitude to you for Cosponsoring H.R. 1383, the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025, and to affirm our Board's strong support for this critical legislation. As you are aware, Secure Rural Schools Act funding is vital for sustaining essential services, particularly education and infrastructure in rural communities like Lake County's that contain significant federal lands. In Fiscal Year 2023, Lake County entities were allocated \$465,316.51, in consideration of the 258,602 acres of the Mendocino National Forest located within our boundaries; nearly half of that amount was allocated for rural road improvements.

The Secure Rural Schools program has been instrumental in providing stable funding for our schools and infrastructure, compensating for the decline in timber revenue for more than two decades. Rural roads that ensure access to schools, ingress and egress in the event of wildfire emergencies, and promote rural economic opportunity are maintained using this crucial funding source.

Any reduction in either education or roads funding would be detrimental to Lake County; public safety, long-term economic vibrancy, and access to critical services will all be affected.

We appreciate your continued advocacy for the swift passage of HR 1383, to ensure America's rural communities continue to receive the support they need. Your support is particularly meaningful to Lake County; we appreciate your constant work on our residents' behalf.

Sincerely,

Eddie "E.J." Crandell
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Senator Alex Padilla; Honorable Senator Adam Schiff