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March 8, 2022

The Honorable Senator Bill Dodd  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 6620  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: SB 833 (Dodd) Community Energy Resilience Act of 2022  
As Amended March 7, 2022– SUPPORT  
Set for Hearing – March 14, 2022 – Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications  
Committee**

Dear Senator Dodd,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is pleased to support your SB 833, which would require the California Energy Commission to develop a grant program to support local governments in the development of community energy resilience plans. The bill would define community energy resilience plans as a planning document prepared by a local government or community choice aggregator that sets forth a strategy for meeting local electrical loads with local clean distributed energy resources.

California communities need reliable and continuous electricity service to ensure the health and safety of residents and support a strong economy. Local governments have been on the front lines of dealing with Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS) for the past several years. PSPS are used as a tool to prevent accidental wildfire ignitions, however, these shutdowns also have many negative impacts on our local communities.

In addition to residential and commercial impacts, PSPS events have environmental consequences. During PSPS events many counties have been forced to purchase or rent diesel generators to run critical county infrastructure, including jails and community centers. While these generators have been necessary, their use is not an ideal solution given California's greenhouse gas reduction and clean energy goals. We support efforts to provide better energy solutions to critical government facilities during outages.

SB 833 would help local governments and community-based organizations develop projects that improve community energy resiliency during outages. The bill includes critical financial resources and technical expertise to develop plans and implement distributed clean energy resources. It is for these reasons that we support SB 833. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact Catherine Freeman, CSAC Legislative Representative on agriculture, environment, and natural resources issues at 916-662-6400 or at [cfreeman@counties.org](mailto:cfreeman@counties.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Freeman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Catherine Freeman  
Legislative Representative

CC: Honorable Members and Consultant, Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee  
Kerry Yoshida, Senate Republican Caucus