



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

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April 2, 2024

The Honorable Congressman John Curtis
2323 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4402

Dear Congressman Curtis,

On behalf of our County, we respectfully appeal for your support and advocacy regarding H.R. 5030, a pivotal piece of legislation aimed at extending the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. Our County, much like numerous others in rural America, has directly benefited from the provisions of this Act, which have played a vital role in supporting public schools, road maintenance, forest health projects, and emergency services.

The Secure Rural Schools Act was crafted to provide counties housing federal lands with a stable revenue source to offset the loss of traditional income resulting from changes in Federal land-use policies. This funding is indispensable for maintaining essential services and contributing to the well-being and safety of our residents. The looming expiration of this Act jeopardizes the progress and stability we have diligently fostered within our County.

H.R. 5030 proposes to extend these critical benefits, ensuring that counties like ours can continue to depend on this support. Your endorsement of this bill would not only showcase a commitment to the prosperity of rural communities nationwide but also underscore a profound understanding of the unique challenges we confront. As someone deeply connected to Utah and its diverse communities, your support for this legislation would reaffirm your dedication to nurturing the health and resilience of rural areas.

We acknowledge the pressing issues facing our nation and the complexities involved in balancing competing needs with limited funding. Nevertheless, we firmly believe that extending the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act presents a bipartisan opportunity to affirm the federal government's commitment to its rural constituents. Your advocacy for H.R. 5030 would be instrumental in securing the future of our County and countless others like it.

Thank you for considering our request and for your ongoing service to the citizens of San Juan County, Utah. We eagerly anticipate your support on this crucial matter and stand ready to provide any additional information or discuss the significant impact this legislation holds for our County.

Sincerely,

Jamie Harvey
Commission Chair