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January 17, 2012

Governor Jerry Brown
Members of the State Senate
Members of the State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SUPPORT SB 659 (Padilla) – Temporarily Postpone Dissolution of
Redevelopment Agencies**

Dear Governor Brown and Members of the State Legislature:

The City Council of the City of Lemoore urges you to quickly pass and sign SB 659 (Padilla), a bill that would temporarily postpone the scheduled February 1, 2012 date to dissolve California's 425 redevelopment agencies.

As you must certainly know, Assembly Bill 1X 26 brings with it several ambiguous requirements. Temporarily postponing the deadline of redevelopment agencies would provide our Legislators additional time to research and resolve the complexities within the law. In addition, it would provide an opportunity so that our Legislators could potentially develop alternatives to the complete elimination of redevelopment agencies.

On February 1st, without an extension, numerous jobs will be on the chopping block and cities and counties in the state of California will lose one of their only methods for increasing economic vitality. Development, and therefore construction, will come to a screeching halt. Cities and counties will not be the only entities in the state to suffer. Without redevelopment, construction jobs will certainly be lost.

Now is not the time to eliminate our only tool for economic development. Yes, the state is in dire need of additional financial resources, but eliminating a proven development tool could have severe long term consequences on the entire state.

The City of Lemoore believes there is a viable alternative to the way redevelopment is currently run. However, the complete destruction of redevelopment agencies, in such a short period of time, will be devastating to communities.

My fellow Council Members and I urge you to please postpone the scheduled dissolution of redevelopment agencies. We ask for your support for SB 659.

Sincerely,

Willard J. Rodarmel, Mayor