



March 4, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of the State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: FEMA supported vaccine centers in Monterey County

Dear Gov. Newsom:

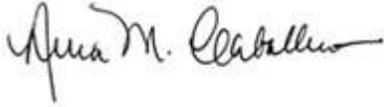
We respectfully write to ask that you use your Executive authority as Governor of our state to request additional Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Federally Supported Vaccine Centers to improve the equitable distribution of vaccinations for essential workers in rural and hard to reach areas of California. We are working with Congressman Jimmy Panetta to bring a critically needed Type 5 Mobile Vaccination Center to the Salinas Valley in order to quickly vaccinate essential workers that are critical to agricultural production.

The Salinas Valley produces over 150 specialty crops and exports nearly 400 billion pounds of produce every year. Increased vaccination efforts to support this critical industry are needed as Monterey County expects to see the return of 35,000 seasonal agricultural workers that will increase the total agricultural workforce to over 60,000 people. Increased doses have reached Monterey County, but it is imperative that we work to expedite this process to safeguard workers and maintain our region's ability to provide the freshest produce for our nation.

Strong efforts are being made locally to continue farming even while facing unprecedented challenges created by the pandemic. These efforts have led to the creation of a strong collaborative infrastructure that can organize vaccine distributions quickly and would be aided by having additional vaccine support in our region. A Type 5 Mobile Vaccination Center would be ideal to create vaccination sites that more efficiently serve a workforce spread out along the Salinas Valley.

Thank you for considering this action. We stand at the ready to assist you in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Anna M. Caballero in black ink.

Anna M. Caballero, Senate District 12

Handwritten signature of John Laird in black ink.

John Laird, Senate District 17

Handwritten signature of Robert Rivas in blue ink.

Robert Rivas, Assembly District 30

Cc: Angie Wei, Office of Governor Newsom  
Dr. Tomas Aragon, Department of Public Health