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COUNTERTERRORISM

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**ZOE LOFGREN**  
16TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

July 29, 2010

Copy to [unclear]

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Jared Huffman  
Assemblymember, Sixth District  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0006

Dear Mr. Huffman:

I write today as the Chair of the 34 Member California Democratic Congressional Delegation to thank you for your recent letter in support of the PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program and to inform you and your Caucus of the actions our Delegation is taking to urge the Obama Administration to correct this problem.

As you know, the PACE program was funded by Congress through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The program allows municipalities to invest in projects that reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. PACE also helps homeowners afford energy-efficiency retrofits and renewable-energy installations. The program has the potential of creating thousands of jobs by weatherizing and greening homes and communities throughout the country.

Unfortunately, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have recently asserted that homeowners are in default of their mortgages if they finance energy improvements with PACE. The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) endorsed this position on PACE loans, thereby preventing responsible homeowners from using the PACE program to retrofit their homes. Accordingly, nearly all of the CA Democratic Congressional Delegation joined thirty of their Democratic colleagues in the House in sending a letter to President Obama urging him to exercise his authority to resolve the issues surrounding the PACE program in a timely manner.

Additionally, a majority of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation signed on to Rep. Mike Thompson's legislation, H.R. 5766. The bill, which was introduced on July 15, orders lenders to adopt standards that support PACE programs, rather than stymie green energy efforts.

We appreciate your Caucus' commitment to the PACE program and for the important work you are doing to make California a national leader in retrofitting and energy efficiency. We will continue to urge the Obama Administration to immediately publish revised guidelines that would allow PACE financing programs to continue.

Sincerely,

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

ZOE LOFGREN

Chair, California Democratic Congressional Delegation