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June 8, 2026

The Honorable Jerry McNerney
Chair, Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation
State Capitol, 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2705 (Dixon), Statewide Standards and Consumer Protections for Excess Proceeds Claims – SUPPORT

Dear Senator McNerney,

I am writing on behalf of the Kern County Board of Supervisors to express our support for AB 2705 (Dixon), which would strengthen consumer protections and streamline how interested parties claim excess proceeds from tax-defaulted property sales.

Under current law, any party of interest may file a claim for excess proceeds over \$150 within one year of the tax collector's deed being recorded. However, private "asset finder" companies often act as intermediaries and charge substantial fees for a process that consumers can complete directly with the county at no cost. Because there are no consistent statewide rules governing these practices, consumers remain vulnerable to misleading solicitations and excessive charges.

AB 2705 would establish uniform statewide standards for excess proceeds recovery services, including clear disclosures that consumers can file claims with the county for free and instructions on how to do so. It would require written agreements, prohibit advance fees, and cap fees at 10% of awarded proceeds when a claimant chooses to use a third party, which is in alignment with the fee cap for assets recovered through the State Controller. These protections mirror proven safeguards in existing unclaimed property law.

Counties statewide conduct tax-defaulted property sales, making this a broad and recurring issue. Kern has seen its share of ongoing problems with asset-finder companies, including misleading claims of authority, aggressive outreach, and attempts to improperly position themselves as parties of interest. Without statewide standards, these practices can undermine the process and reduce the funds returned to rightful claimants.

For these reasons, the Kern County Board of Supervisors supports this measure and respectfully urges you to vote **YES on AB 2705**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phillip Peters", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Phillip Peters, Chairman
Kern County Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation
Honorable Members, Kern Legislative Delegation
Kern County Treasurer-Tax Collector
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange