Date

The Honorable Mike McGuire The Honorable Jim Wood

California State Senate California State Assembly

State Capitol State Capitol

Sacramento, California 95814 Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Emergency Funding for the California Fairs Network

Dear Senator McGuire and Assembly Member Wood,

I am writing on behalf of [Your Organization’s Name], to urge your support for emergency assistance to the Network of California Fairs. Fairgrounds generate 30,000 jobs and more than $3.5 billion in annual economic revenues along with over $200 million in tax revenues to local and state governments. In addition, fairgrounds generate more than $35 million in non-profit and community benefits each year.

Fairgrounds are also an essential part of the infrastructure necessary for the state to effectively respond in natural disasters and emergencies like extended power outages. During wildfires, Fairgrounds stage emergency vehicles and fire equipment, shelter displaced residents and animals, and generally support the community efforts to cope with each emergency. Several fairgrounds are currently serving as coronavirus testing centers and command posts for the Office of Emergency Services, provide shelter for the homeless, and help deal with the myriad of community issues resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic.

As a result of the stay-at-home order and response to Covid-19, more than 26 fairs, have canceled, postponed, or drastically altered their annual fair, and more fairs will be forced to make that decision in the coming weeks. Educational, entertainment, and family events that are important to the communities we serve, like weddings, funerals, family reunions, seasonal trade shows, equestrian events, dog shows, quinceañeras, stand down events for veterans, non-profit organization fundraisers, learning center activities, and other community events have also been canceled, postponed, or closed. The financial hardship is not only felt by our fairs and employees but also by all the local businesses and service providers that work with, and rely on our fairgrounds and the Network of California Fairs to survive.

We hope you will find funding to keep fairgrounds serving Thank you for your continued work on behalf of the State of California.

Sincerely yours,