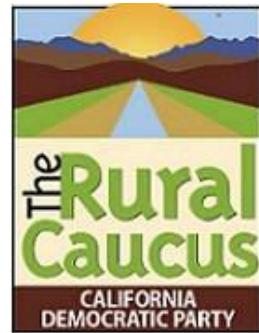


December 10, 2018



## Kudos on Some Excellent Accomplishments

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Dear Fellow Rural Caucus Members, I wanted to share some kudos with you ... from Ohio. I received an email (see below) from a gentleman in their state Democratic Party, asking about us because they want to emulate our success.

***"Hey Joy,***

***I'm with the Ohio Democratic Party and we're attempting to create a rural caucus. I was curious to see what your experience was with the California Democratic Party's Rural Caucus was? Frankly speaking, we aim to have similar rural voting results in Ohio to that of California and we'd like any advice we can get ... "***

Please [click here](#) for the full email and my response. It's a really great compliment. We all can feel proud.

I'm off to San Francisco this afternoon to meet Carolyn Fowler at the California Public Utilities Commission workshop on the pending Sprint-T-Mobile merger, where we hope to make the case that approval should be conditioned on expanding broadband in our rural communities. Then, on Tuesday, I have been invited to a California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) all day round table in Oakland.

I think the key here is that we keep pushing for broadband equity. It's been baby steps, but I do feel we are gaining ground.

I also want to thank our Region 1 E Director, Bill Monroe, who has been volunteering in two places for the past 30 days to help the Camp Fire survivors. My heart is with the evacuees and the first responders, who are still working 24/7. Sadly today's San Francisco Chronicle confirms the tragic narrative that most victims were the elderly and disabled.

According to Bill, the best things we can do to help through the Holidays include:

- Making a contribution to [North Valley Community Foundation](#) and [United Way](#) or

**text BUTTEFIRE to 91999.**

- He also recommends the [Tzu Chi Foundation](#), a Buddhist group that is handing out Visa Cards with values up to \$800 for families burned out of their homes.
- If you have a motor home you can lend ... or if you can take in a survivor, housing is a severe problem. [Paradise Adopt A Family](#) provides the means to connect family to family.

Bill is absolutely right that we cannot let ourselves forget those in need after the spotlight moves away, especially this time of year.

Thinking ahead, Phil Gross, representing the RC Water Policy Discussion Group, is setting up meetings with our electeds in Sacramento to impress on them the need to push through legislation to assure clean drinking water for all – one of our key goals as a Caucus in 2019.

These are all great steps forward. Thank you for all that you do.

With all my very best,



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