



The Panetta Institute for Public Policy

May 14, 2020

Mr. William J. Douros  
Regional Director  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Ocean Service  
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries/West Coast Region  
99 Pacific Street, Building 100, Suite F  
Monterey, California 93940

Dear Bill:

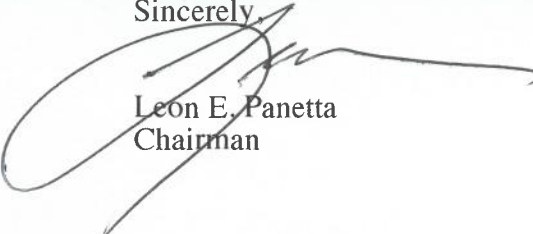
I am writing this letter to offer my wholehearted support to renew the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary (CHNMS) nomination that may expire this year. I encourage you to promote NOAA's examination and analysis of this appeal and argue for the importance of maintaining the CHNMS in NOAA's inventory.

You know as well as I the great threats that face our oceans today. Anything that can be done to preserve, expand and enhance the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary should be effected. We cannot as twenty-first century citizens fully achieve the actualization of our own potential until we make part of our work ensuring that future generations are provided a healthy ocean and environment that allows them to fulfill their potential as well.

Albert Einstein wisely stated: "The life of the individual only has value insofar as it aids in making the life of every living thing nobler and more beautiful." Given the challenges our children and grandchildren will face, Einstein's words should be expanded to state that it is a moral imperative for us to leave this world sustainable for future generations. Part of the harvest of our lives are the deeds done, and nothing is more important today than recognizing the dangers of climate change, especially as they impact the major component of our globe, its oceans.

Thank you for your work in collecting the letters of support for the CHNMS and supporting the Chumash request that is, in the end, vital to all the world's citizens.

Sincerely,



Leon E. Panetta  
Chairman

LEP:rk