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***To Present and Prospective Members of the South County Federation:***

I have been asked to provide my thoughts on what it means to be a member of the South County Federation and it is with pleasure and a privilege to do so.

Because the South County Federation (formerly known as the Federation of Lorton Communities) has the unique ability to successfully influence legislators, it is the organization I turn to when making legislation and participating in voting. Those of you whose associations have long been members of this organization already know the benefits it brings. However, there are associations that have not yet taken advantage of belonging; therefore I am urging you to do so.

I have a great deal of respect for the South County Federation because over the last 20 years it has proven its ability to work together and to speak as one voice. The Federation is an invaluable resource to me. It is this organization that I look to for help in making sure that what I bring to the full Board of Supervisors is representative of the south county region. This collaborative effort often results in favorable votes for you and your community.

Another good reason for being a member of the South County Federation is because it develops new relationships with other member organizations. This is important because learning about one another's needs can lead not only to a better understanding of the others' issues but provides an even stronger voice when working with legislators. Working collaboratively often results in bringing positive change to the quality of life not only in one community but in the entire southern area of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District.

If your civic association is already a member of the South County Federation, I congratulate you and urge you to be actively participating in the issues that are facing Fairfax County. If your association is not yet a member of the Federation, I encourage you to join and to participate as often as you can. It is your involvement that will continue to bring about positive change for all of us who live, work, educate and recreate in Fairfax County.

I take this opportunity to thank the South County Federation for the collective leadership it has in its ability to represent the South County area of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District

I look forward to another year of working with you in making an already wonderful magisterial district even better.

Yours In Service,

Gerry Hyland

Your Mount Vernon Supervisor