WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel) released the following statement after the death of Sen. Edward Kennedy:

"My thoughts and prayers are with the Kennedy family. My career has allowed me to know three generations of Kennedys, and it would be difficult to find a more generous, dedicated group of people. Ted was a tireless champion for those who needed him most, a pioneer in civil rights, education, health care and poverty issues.

"Ted visited Monterey in 1972 to campaign for Julian Camacho during his bid for Congress. I'll never forget introducing him at a local fundraiser. I was just 31. I also serve on the same committee as Ted's son Patrick and we often talk about the success his uncle Jack had in creating the Peace Corps and the great influence Bobby had on my life.

"Ted will be greatly missed in Washington, both for his inspiring leadership and his profound generosity. I offer him my sincere thanks for his service to our country."

# # #