



FIONA MA, CPA
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
MEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

April 26, 2016

Senator Ricardo Lara, Chair

Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SENATE BILL 816 (HILL) - STATE BOE: MEMBERS: CONTRIBUTIONS
SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Lara,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 816, which requires disclosure and disqualification of Board of Equalization (BOE) Members who receive a contribution over one hundred dollars from a party, agent or participant in a pending adjudicatory proceeding within twelve months prior to that proceeding.

The purpose of this bill to prohibit Board Members from participating in adjudicatory proceedings when they have accepted any contribution from the taxpayer or any other person related to the case.

While I don't believe Board Members have been unduly influenced or taken inappropriate actions under current law, these are reasonable restrictions that will strengthen public confidence that the Board decides cases based on facts and the law, independent of inappropriate influence.

SB 816 will not create a burden for Board Members since contributions are currently tracked. Therefore, I am pleased to support the bill and urge your "aye" vote on SB 816 (Hill).

In Peace and Friendship,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fiona Ma", is written over a blue horizontal line.

Chairwoman Fiona Ma, CPA

