



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Bill Leonard, Member

2nd District – Sacramento

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Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

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BILL LEONARD ANNOUNCES DROP IN GASOLINE USE

Bill Leonard, Member of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced that total gallons of gasoline used in the state declined in 2006.

For three consecutive quarters, from April through December of 2006, gasoline figures came in below the same periods in 2005. Californians purchased 112 million fewer gallons in 2006 than they did the year prior (15.88 billion gallons sold in 2006 vs. 15.91 billion gallons sold in 2005). The last drop in annual gasoline sales was seen in 1992.

“Possible causes for the drop in sales include consumers limiting the distances they drive and choosing more fuel efficient vehicles (including hybrid automobiles),” said Leonard. “It cannot be positively concluded from BOE data what economic factors are responsible for the decrease in sales.”

The figures can be viewed at <http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/imvf10ynet.pdf>.

Bill Leonard, of Sacramento/Ontario, was re-elected as the Second District Member of the State Board of Equalization in November. Prior to his election, he served in the State Assembly (1978-1988, 1996-2002) and in the State Senate (1988-1996).

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects nearly \$53 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

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