STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
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State Board of Equalization
Notice of Stakeholders Meeting
450 N Street, Room 122, Sacramento, CA
May 18, 2011, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

State Board of Equalization (BOE) Sales and Use Tax Department invites you to attend a stakeholders meeting to discuss and solicit public suggestions for narrowing California's sales and use tax gap. As part of this discussion, we will also be asking for your suggestions on how to improve BOE's Qualified Purchaser program which requires certain California service businesses to register with BOE to report use tax.

This meeting is being noticed in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act because the personal representatives of a majority of the Board Members may be present. It is also possible one or more Board Members may attend.

Background
The "tax gap" is the difference between taxes owed and taxes paid. In 2007, the BOE implemented a plan designed to reduce California's sales and use tax gap. These prior efforts focused on improving BOE's on-going audit and collection programs, collecting use tax from in-state service businesses, and expanding collection on bankruptcy and out-of-state accounts.

Purpose
Staff is asking for your ideas on how to narrow the tax gap. We are looking for suggestions for legislative or regulatory change, new audit or collection efforts, or improvements to current programs.

Contact
If you plan to attend the May 18, 2011 stakeholders meeting, please contact Ms. Lynn Whitaker at Lynn.Whitaker@boe.ca.gov or at (916)324-8483. If you would like to participate by teleconference, use this number to dial in: (877) 581-9247. The participant pass code is 314904. This notice will be available under "In the Spotlight" on the Board's website at www.boe.ca.gov.

The hearing location is accessible to people with disabilities. Please contact Ms. Whitaker if you require special assistance.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to provide input for discussion at the meeting, please feel free to email your suggestions to Ms. Whitaker prior to May 16, 2011. Whether or not you are able to attend the stakeholder's meeting, you may submit written comments and suggestions by May 31, 2011. Please do not include any confidential information, as a copy of the material you submit may be provided to other stakeholders.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Susanne Buehler, Chief
Tax Policy Division
Sales and Use Tax Department