



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Chairman Jerome E. Horton**

**4<sup>th</sup> District – Los Angeles**

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## **Horton, Cancer Schmancer Offering Free Cancer Screening**

Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California Board of Equalization, has agreed to partner with the Cancer Schmancer Movement to present free cancer screening for low and moderate income women in Southern California.

Free Cancer screening will be conducted on April 11 and 13, 2011. The locations will be posted on the Cancer Schmancer website at [www.CancerSchmancer.org](http://www.CancerSchmancer.org).

"Our goal is to ensure that low-income women in our community have access to cancer prevention resources that may help them fight cancer by catching it early," said Horton. "When cancer is found early, 90% survive."

The Cancer Schmancer Movement was established to shift the nation's focus from just searching for a future cure for cancer to cancer education, prevention and early detection to save lives today. This year, cancer will be the leading killer in the world, and in the United States alone one in three women and one in two men will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.

To this end, the Cancer Schmancer Movement educates women on the cancer risk factors, early warning signs, and tests that are available for early detection of women's cancers. In addition, the Cancer Schmancer Movement advocates for improved women's cancer healthcare legislation.

Horton also seeks to educate women about the Every Woman Counts program that provides free breast cancer screening services to low-income California women. The program was established by the federal Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act of 1990 and the state Breast Cancer Act of 1993.

"Though women must be over 40 and at or below 200 percent of the poverty guideline to qualify for Every Woman Counts, no such criteria needs to be met for our event," said Horton. "For example, for a single woman to qualify for Every Woman Counts, she would need to have an annual gross income of \$21,660 or less. I believe that many women in California earn more than this amount but still cannot afford annual mammograms if they are uninsured, hence a large population of women are being left out," he continued.

"In addition, women in their 30's are at-risk for breast cancer, but also do not qualify for the state program. I am proud to be able to offer free screening days to fill-in these gaps." Horton added.

Dr. Mark Horton, director of the Department of Public Health, said “We are very pleased to be able to reopen the program to qualified low-income women age 40 and older. Early detection can save a life, and I strongly encourage all eligible women to take advantage of this service”

Individuals may sign-up for the Every Woman Counts program online by visiting the [CA Department of Public Health](#) website.

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the BOE Legislative Committee chairman. He is the first African American to serve on the BOE since its inception in 1879 and the third African American constitutional officer in California’s history. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$48 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 serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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