



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

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Horton Helps Hundreds with Free Income Tax Preparation and Family Services Event

*Families and Individuals Benefited from Free Income Tax Preparation;
Upcoming Events Set for March 19 in Los Angeles and April 2 in Long Beach*

Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced that, despite this past weekend's bad weather conditions in Los Angeles, hundreds attended Horton's Free Income Tax Preparation and Family Services event at California State University, Dominguez Hills on Saturday, February 26. Most attendees arrived early in anticipation of filing for their income taxes for free.

Congresswoman Laura Richardson and Carson City Councilman Mike Gipson were on hand and toured the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) event. "I've never seen this many volunteers and tax payers at one VITA site before," said Congresswoman Richardson. Councilman Gipson said, "I'm impressed by how efficiently taxpayers are being processed and by how well the volunteers are operating."

Chairman Horton kicked off Saturday's event by thanking all of the volunteers and service partners for their participation. He then accompanied the first attendee through each station until her tax return was completed. "I'm proud of our 4th District constituents who weren't discouraged by the weather and took advantage of the free tax preparation services," said Horton.

Two more events are scheduled in Los Angeles and Long Beach. "If you weren't able to make it out to this event, be sure to take advantage of our future events. We are still committed to ensuring that every eligible Los Angeles County resident claims their Earned Income Tax Credit," said Horton. There is no charge to have returns completed and e-filed. The next events are on Saturday, March 19, at Los Angeles City College; and on April 2, at Long Beach City College. Both events will begin at 10:00 a.m. All Family Services are open to the public. Free tax preparation service is by appointment only. Please call 323-980-1221 to schedule an appointment or for any questions. For more information, visit: www.boe.ca.gov/members/horton/vita.htm.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites provide a secure and accessible location for taxpayers to get assistance from certified preparers to file their 2010 state and federal income tax returns. Horton has partnered with the Internal Revenue Service, the Franchise Tax Board, United Way, Legal Aid Society of Orange County, and other local non-profit and for-profit entities to offer the Free Income Tax Preparation and Family Services events.

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 a Member of the California Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization 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 California taxes and fees, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

Editor's note: Below are two photos with Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), attendees, volunteers and tax preparers at Horton's Free Income Tax Preparation and Family Services event on Saturday, February 26 at California State University, Dominguez Hills.



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