



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Michelle Steel, Member

3rd District – Rolling Hills Estates

Kristine Cazadd
Interim Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

For Immediate Release
January 10, 2011

Contact: NR 4-11-S
Anita Gore
916-327-8988

Board of Equalization Helps Employees Expand Education Opportunities

California State University Offers Continuing Education for Working Adults

Michelle Steel, Third District Member of the State Board of Equalization, today announced that the BOE is working collaboratively with the California State University's (CSU) Continuing Education Program to provide opportunities for adult learning to enable employees to get a college degree while working. The BOE hosted a one-hour presentation in Sacramento today by CSU that presented information on various degrees that can be earned through the College of Continuing Education Program.

The BOE continues to offer opportunities to its employees to gain a greater understanding of tax and fee programs, improve professional skills, and continue employee education for professional development to better serve the tax and fee payers of California. CSU will offer in person and online classes to encourage BOE employees to expand their knowledge of a particular subject or advance toward an academic degree. Employees who enroll in this program as students are responsible for the costs associated with the courses; however, reimbursement may be allowed pursuant to bargaining agreements.

Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses.

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.

###