



For Immediate Release
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Retailers to Collect Lumber Products Assessment **One Percent Assessment Added to Purchases of Lumber Products at Point-of-Sale**

Sacramento – A new state law ([AB 1492, Ch. 289, Stat. 2012](#)) imposes a one percent (1%) assessment on the purchase of lumber products and engineered wood products for use in California. The new law mandates that, beginning January 1, 2013, the Board of Equalization (BOE) require retailers and construction contractors who sell these products to collect the 1% assessment on their sales to consumers based on the selling price and pay the amounts collected to the BOE, announced BOE Chairman Jerome E. Horton.

The money collected will fund programs in various state agencies, including the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). BOE estimates show the new assessment will generate \$35 million in FY 2013-14 for the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund.

“The BOE hopes to prevent confusion among lumber and wood product retailers, contractors, and consumers who may be surprised by this new law,” said Chairman Horton. “The BOE is proactively notifying those who may be required to comply with the new assessment.”

BOE is sending letters to more than 200,000 retailers and construction contractors informing them they may be affected by the new 1% lumber products assessment and offering them assistance, including this information about compliance:

- Receipts given to customers must clearly state the 1% lumber products assessment.
- The 1% lumber products assessment is not subject to sales or use tax.
- Retailers will be required to electronically file the lumber products assessment with the BOE.
- BOE makes it easy for retailers to electronically file and pay their sales and use tax returns ([eFile](#)).
- Retailers are entitled up to \$250 in reimbursement for start-up costs for each retail location.

For more details:

- [California Lumber Products Assessment](#)
- [Lumber Products Assessment Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ's\)](#)

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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 Board of Equalization’s Legislative

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Committee Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$53.7 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.

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