



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

## Vice Chair Michelle Steel

### 3<sup>rd</sup> District – Orange County

Cynthia Bridges  
Executive Director  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Michelle Steel Announces Emergency Tax Relief Available for Business Owners Affected by Fires in San Diego County**

**Sacramento** – Business owners and feepayers impacted by wildfires in San Diego County, as discussed in this [Proclamation of a State of Emergency](#), may request an extension to file their returns, ask for relief from penalties and/or interest on some taxes and fees, or to replace copies of records lost to damage, Board of Equalization Vice Chair Michelle Steel announced today.

“We’re extremely thankful for our brave firefighters who are battling the blazes in San Diego County, and our sympathy goes out to those who have lost homes and property,” said Vice Chair Steel. “We are committed to working with tax and feepayers during this difficult time and we encourage our customers to contact us if they need help.”

Vice Chair Steel will offer help firsthand to those affected by the fires as she will be hosting a free, Small Business Seminar in Carlsbad from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, 2014 in the Carlsbad City Library’s Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011.

### **Requesting Relief**

Tax and feepayers can go [online](#) to request relief from penalty and/or interest, and an extension of time to file a tax/fee return. Any tax or feepayer can use the online system to make their request for the tax and fee programs listed below.

Sales and Use Taxes	Oil Spill Prevention Fee and Oil Spill Response Fee
Fire Prevention Fee	Lumber Assessment
Alcoholic Beverage Tax	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee
Cigarettes and Tobacco Products Excise Taxes	Integrated Waste Management Fee
Energy Resources Surcharge	Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee
Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge	Electronic Waste Recycling (eWaste) Fee
Natural Gas Surcharge	Marine Invasive Species Fee (Ballast Water Management Fee)
Timber Yield Tax	California Tire Fee

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Fuel Taxes (Diesel Fuel Tax, Interstate User Tax, Use Fuel Tax, Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax, Aircraft Jet Fuel )	Hazardous Substances Fees (Environmental Fee, Activity Fee, Generator Fee, Disposal Fee, Facility Fee)
Underground Storage Tank Maintenance Fee	Water Rights Fee

Those without Internet access may call the BOE Customer Service Center at 1-800-400-7115 (TTY: 711), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific Time).

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, 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. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$56 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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