



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Michelle Steel, Member

3rd District – Rolling Hills Estates

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MICHELLE STEEL SAYS GASOLINE USE UP SLIGHTLY IN JANUARY

(Rolling Hills Estates) – A recently announced decline in gasoline consumption in California during the last three quarters of 2006 may have ended in January 2007 according to new figures released today by Michelle Steel, Third District Member of the Board of Equalization.

Month-to-month fluctuations were noted in the last three quarters of 2006, even though declines were reported in each quarter's totals. The January figures do not necessarily indicate a change in trend.

Price decreases throughout most of January may help to explain the numbers. Average pump prices started the year at \$2.656, and dropped to \$2.535 four weeks later.

On average, January 2007 prices were about 19 cents above those seen in January 2006.

From April thru December of 2006, Californians used .70% less fuel than the same period of 2005. During that period of declining consumption, the average price was \$2.958 – up 33 cents from the same period of 2005.

The figures can be viewed at: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/imvf10ynet.pdf>.

Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006, Michelle Steel serves as the country's highest ranking Korean-American elected official. She represents the over 8.5 million taxpayers of the Third Board of Equalization District, including the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, Imperial and San Bernardino.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects nearly \$53 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 plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

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