



NEWS RELEASE

**STATE BOARD
OF EQUALIZATION**

450 N Street
Sacramento
California 95814

BILL LEONARD
Member, BOE
Second District

RAMON J. HIRSIG
Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NR# 21-L
Date: March 22, 2005
Contact: Anita Gore
Communications Office
(916) 327-8988
Website: <http://www.boe.ca.gov>

LEONARD REMINDS TAXPAYERS OF TAX AMNESTY DEADLINES

With little more than a week left in the Tax Amnesty campaign, Bill Leonard, Member of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today reminded California taxpayers they have until March 31, 2005 to apply to take care of any outstanding liabilities without penalties by participating in the program.

The Amnesty program – jointly administered by the BOE and FTB – applies to California sales, use, franchise and income taxes from the year 2002 and earlier.

Taxpayers need only file their Amnesty application by the March 31 deadline. Taxpayers then have another two months (until May 31) to submit returns, and pay in full or enter into an installment payment agreement.

The BOE has received 3,887 Amnesty applications and \$10,071,384 in Amnesty payments.

Taxpayers can visit www.taxes.ca.gov for more information on Tax Amnesty.

Bill Leonard, of Sacramento/Ontario, was elected to his first term as Second District Member of the State Board of Equalization in 2002. Prior to his election, he served in the State Assembly (1978-1988, 1996-2002) and in the State Senate (1988-1996).

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax commission. The Board collects nearly \$42 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and also plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property tax.

Other Board Members include Betty T. Yee of San Francisco, Acting Member, First District, Claude Parrish of Long Beach, Third District, Chairman John Chiang of Los Angeles, Fourth District and State Controller Steve Westly.

###