



For Immediate Release
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Runner Says LA County Fire Tax Bills Mail Today

George Runner today announced that the State of California has begun mailing 19,016 “Fire Prevention Fee” bills to rural Los Angeles County residents.

“Property owners who receive bills should take a close look to make sure the bill they received is accurate,” said Runner. “If there’s a problem with your bill, the law only allows 30 days for you to file an appeal—and that’s 30 days from the date on the bill, not the date you receive it.”

The new tax, which Runner opposes as an “illegal money grab,” was approved as a “fee” by a simple majority vote of the Legislature last year and signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown.

“This money will not pay to fight fires and won’t add a single firefighter, fire truck or fire hose,” cautioned Runner. “The funds collected—optimistically projected to be \$84 million—will only pay for fire prevention efforts that already exist and cannot be used for firefighters or actual fire suppression.”

Runner explained that the funds collected will neither expand nor bolster the state’s fire prevention efforts. They only backfill money the Legislature chose to spend elsewhere. No new fire prevention efforts will result from this tax.

The new law requires residential rural property owners in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) to pay \$150 for each habitable structure located on their land. Property owners who already pay for local fire protection receive a \$35 reduction.

To help inform California taxpayers, Runner has established a website, calfirefee.com, providing information about the new fire tax. Californians can visit this site to find out if they will receive a fire tax bill. They can also learn details regarding the process, timeline and grounds for filing an appeal.

The state plans to mail more than 825,000 bills in alphabetical order by county between August and early December. The state has released the following expanded partial mailing schedule, as well as a complete [county-by-county bill count](#).

County	Mailing Date	Number of Bills
ALAMEDA	August 13 th through 14 th	4,231
ALPINE	August 14 th	1,697
AMADOR	August 14 th through 17 th	11,569
BUTTE	August 17 th through 24 th	21,051
CALAVERAS	August 24 th through 29 th	23,224
COLUSA	August 29 th	411
CONTRA COSTA	August 29 th	4,336
DEL NORTE	August 29 th through 30 th	5,393
EL DORADO	August 30 th through September 7 th	51,897
FRESNO	September 7 th through 10 th	9,845
GLENN	September 10 th	327
HUMBOLDT	September 10 th through 11 th	15,824
IMPERIAL	September 11 th	17
INYO	September 11 th through 12 th	3,132
KERN	September 12 th through 14 th	26,465
KINGS	September 14 th	18
LAKE	September 14 th through 18 th	15,841
LASSEN	September 18 th	5,580
LOS ANGELES	September 18 th through 20 th	19,016
MADERA	September 20 th through 24 th	13,727
MARIN	September 24 th through 25 th	12,732
MARIPOSA	September 25 th through 26 th	8,430
MENDOCINO	September 26 th through 28 th	17,867
MERCED	September 28 th	392
MODOC	September 28 th	1,828
MONO	September 28 th	4,207
MONTEREY	September 28 th through October 2 nd	24,362
NAPA	October 2 nd through 3 rd	7,298
NEVADA	October 3 rd through 9 th	29,359
ORANGE	October 9 th	6,581
PLACER	October 9 th through 15 th	57,549

Elected in November 2010, George Runner represents more than nine million Californians as a member of the State Board of Equalization. For more information, visit www.boe.ca.gov/Runner.

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