SEN. GEORGE RUNNER (RET.)
MEMBER
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
CALIFORNIA'S TAX BOARD

May 6, 2016

Senator Robert Hertzberg, Chair
Senate Committee on Governance and Finance
State Capitol, Room 408
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SENATE BILL 1304 (HUFF) – PROPERTY TAX: DISASTER RELIEF: PORTER RANCH ▪ SUPPORT ▪

Dear Senator Hertzberg,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1304, which would authorize property tax relief for those impacted by the Porter Ranch gas leak and for individuals who may require property tax relief due to similar situations in the future.

On January 6, 2016, Governor Brown declared a state of emergency for Los Angeles County due to a natural gas leak discovered in October 2015 at a well within the Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility.

Thankfully, the leak has been permanently sealed and some of the many thousands of individuals and families in the San Fernando Valley who were forced to relocate have been able to return to their homes. However, many homes are still being tested and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health continues to monitor the region to identify and mitigate health impacts.

SB 1304 is intended to provide financial relief to owners of property damaged or destroyed by an unforeseeable occurrence beyond their control. As a taxpayer advocate and elected member of the State Board of Equalization representing the region, I am pleased to support the bill and urge your "aye" vote when it is heard before your committee on May 11.

Sincerely,

GEORGE RUNNER
1st District

cc: Senator Bob Huff
Scott Chavez, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy

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