



**SEN. GEORGE RUNNER (RET.)**

MEMBER  
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION  
**CALIFORNIA'S TAX BOARD**

March 3, 2016

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

**RE: SENATE BILL 816 (HILL) - STATE BOE: MEMBERS: CONTRIBUTIONS -SUPPORT -**

Dear Senator Hertzberg,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 816, which requires disclosure and disqualification of Board of Equalization (BOE) Members who receive *any* contribution from a party, agent or participant in a pending adjudicatory proceeding within twelve months prior to that proceeding.

The purpose of this bill to prohibit Board Members from participating in adjudicatory proceedings when they have accepted any contribution from the taxpayer or any other person related to the case.

While I don't believe Board Members have been unduly influenced or taken inappropriate actions under current law, these are reasonable restrictions that will strengthen public confidence that the Board decides cases based on facts and the law, independent of inappropriate influence.

SB 816 will not create a burden for Board Members since contributions are currently tracked. Therefore, I am pleased to support the bill and urge your "aye" vote when it is heard on March 16.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Runner".

GEORGE RUNNER  
1<sup>st</sup> District

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