



FIONA MA, CPA  
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION  
MEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

4/14/16

Assembly Member Sebastian Ridley-Thomas  
State Capitol, Room 2176

Chairman Ridley-Thomas,

I am writing in support of Assembly Bill 2678 (Gray). AB 2678 will dedicate the State portion of sales and use taxes from transactions at State fairs to be dedicated to fair funding. There are a total of 78 fairs in the State of California. Fairs are integral institutions for community events in the State of California. Fairs provide a focal point for community members to celebrate their heritage, compete in events, promote innovation, and learn about other cultures.

In addition, fairs serve as key staging grounds for California's emergency management systems. For example, during the 2015 Valley Fire in Lake County, local fair grounds were used as staging areas for first responders. Also, during the Valley Fire in Lake County over 800 people were housed in temporary shelters at the Napa County Fairground.

Unfortunately fairgrounds in the State of California are woefully underfunded. Many fairgrounds are deteriorating to unmanageable levels. AB 2678 is a critical first step to preserve this important institution in the State of California. For these reasons I urge your "AYE" vote on AB 2678.

In Peace and Friendship,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fiona Ma". The signature is stylized and overlaps the text "In Peace and Friendship,".

Chairwoman Fiona Ma, CPA