

Honoring
BRENDA J. FLEMING

On Her Retirement

WHEREAS, Brenda J. Fleming, Executive Director of the State Board of Equalization, will retire on June 30, 2022, after thirty-five years of distinguished service to the State of California and the State Board of Equalization (BOE); and

WHEREAS, Brenda began her career as a technology consultant, and in 1987, her public service started with the California State Assembly, where, as a result of her diligent work, demonstrated ability, and management skills, she was appointed as Director of the Assembly Computer Services in the early 1990s; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Brenda joined the Office of Legislative Counsel's Legislative Data Center and, throughout her eighteen-year tenure, served in various management and leadership roles and was appointed as Deputy Director in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Brenda was appointed by the Board in 2011 as the State Board of Equalization's Chief Information Officer, responsible for the BOE's Technology Services Department. She led large-scale initiatives that transformed the BOE's information technology systems, such as establishing the Open Data Portal to increase transparency and successfully securing the contract that ultimately led to the creation of the new Centralized Revenue Opportunity System (CROS). This system is now responsible for the efficient and effective collection of numerous taxes and fees that generate over \$70 billion annually for the State of California; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, in recognition of her notable contributions, management skills, and outstanding leadership, she was appointed as Chief Deputy Director, where she was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the agency at a time when the State Board of Equalization went through an unprecedented restructure in its 138-year history; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, the Board unanimously appointed her to serve as the 18th Executive Director of the State Board of Equalization due to her exceptional and proven leadership, dedication, skills, sound judgment, tact, and poise. She assisted the Board by providing valuable counsel and in navigating their roles, as it was the first time since 1882 that all district-elected Board Members were new to the State Board of Equalization. Concurrently, she led the rebuilding, revitalizing, and modernizing of the agency through the establishment of the BOE Strategic Plan 2020-25. Her legacy includes the revitalization of the BOE's workforce through the appointments of key staff, successfully restoring the agency's delegated hiring authority, delivering gold-standard services on behalf of the State of California by modernizing our core tax administration functions and business processes, and building the next generation of property tax leaders; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of service, Brenda has earned the respect and admiration of the Board, the Legislature, County Assessors, key stakeholders, and all of the BOE's employees. She inspired excellence in those who she led and worked with, serving as a positive role model and mentor to many. Her integrity and outstanding service to the people of California attest to the high level of her ability and dedication to serving the people of the state; therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board, do hereby extend to Brenda J. Fleming our sincere and grateful appreciation for her dedicated service to the California State Board of Equalization and to the State of California, our congratulations on her well-earned retirement, and our best wishes to her and her family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

Adopted at Sacramento, California, this twenty-fourth day of May 2022, by the State Board of Equalization.