



MIKE SCHAEFER

BOARD MEMBER
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 5, 2023

To: Antonio Vasquez, Chair
Ted Gaines, Board Member, First District
Sally Lieber, Board Member, Second District
Malia M. Cohen, State Controller

From: Mike Schaefer, Board Member, Fourth District

Re: Proposal to schedule one or more Regular Meeting(s) of the Board of Equalization in the Third and/or Fourth District in order to facilitate access for Southern California constituents

Background.

Chair and Honorable Members, prior to 2018 this Board convened Regular Meetings in cities throughout the State of California, including Culver City, Irvine, Monterey, and Sacramento. These convenings allowed constituents and stakeholders to access Board Meetings without recourse to expensive, time-consuming air travel, car trips, and/or hotel stays. In the wake of reorganization, BOE meetings have been held exclusively in Sacramento, discouraging public participation and reducing the visibility and relevance of Board hearings for millions of constituents.

Proposal

In order to increase public access to BOE meetings and increase the visibility and relevance of BOE hearings, I hereby propose to hold at least one regular board meeting per year in District 3 and/or District 4. Staff should work with the Governor's Office, Department of General Services, and other state and local agencies to secure an appropriate venue. In order to control costs, the executive team is encouraged to distinguish between BOE staff who can support hearings remotely and those who will have to travel to support Southern California meetings. By economizing, I believe we can maximize public access while minimizing the public cost of district meetings.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Schaefer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MIKE SCHAEFER, Member
Board of Equalization, 4th District

- cc. Ms. Deborah Bautista-Zavala, Chief Deputy, Office of Member Antonio Vasquez
- Mr. Matt Cox, Chief Deputy, Office of Member Ted Gaines
- Mr. Gary Gartner, Chief Deputy, Office of Member Sally Lieber
- Mr. Cody Petterson, Chief Deputy, Office of Chair Mike Schaefer
- Mr. Hasib Emran, Deputy State Controller
- Ms. Yvette Stowers, Executive Director
- Mr. Henry Nanjo, Chief Counsel