

March 23, 2016

The Honorable Shirley Weber
Chair, Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee
State Capitol Room 365
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to AB 1828 (Dodd) Kopp Act Amendments: Negative Impact on Nonprofit Organizations and Their Donors.

AFSCME District Council 36
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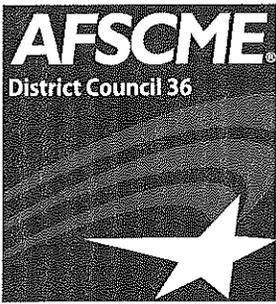
Dear Assemblymember Weber,

On behalf of our members in AFSCME District Council 36, we strongly urge you to oppose AB 1828.

As I am sure you are aware, AB 1828 would prevent donations or behested payments of even \$1 to any nonprofit organizations (including in-kind goods and services) – or a payment by the nonprofit of a portion of the cost for an event that has a governmental, charitable, or legislative purpose in which the Members of the Board of Equalization (BOE) are partnering, hosting, co-hosting or sponsoring with that nonprofit. AB 1828 would prevent these payments in part to ensure an impartial decision-making process by the BOE, however this falsely presumes that a charitable donation to a nonprofit would influence a Board Member's vote.

AB 1828 would also expose the Board and its Members to great risk if they seek to partner in or publicize nonprofit events that have a charitable, governmental, or legislative purpose, which might include events hosted by civic organizations, churches, foundations, employee associations, and others.

Most importantly, this bill would negatively impact nonprofits who serve minority and underserved communities and restrict the public service capacity of the Board of Equalization and State Controller to those non-profits such as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, Campaign Against Poverty Initiative, Connecting Women to Power Conferences, and many others. By redefining behested payments by Board Members as "contributions," thereby requiring the reporting and tracing of all donors and sponsors of an event in which a Member is involved, this would create a "reporting nightmare" for all nonprofits.



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AFSCME District Council 36 urges this committee to recognize the greater good of allowing elected officials, including Board Members, Judges, Legislators, Commissioners, and the Governor, who are subjected to strict disclosure, accountability, contribution limits, and reporting requirements to help address and serve the underserved residents of our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Alice Goff, President of AFSCME Council 36

Cc: Hon. Bill Dodd – AD 04

Hon. Mike Gipson – AD 64

Brian Allison, Political and Legislative Director, ASFCME California

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Joshua Golka, Legislative Affairs Manager, AFSCME California

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