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CLAUDE PARRISH
ORANGE COUNTY ASSESSOR

March 22, 2016

Honorable Shirley Weber, Chair
Elections and Redistricting Committee
P.O. Box 942849, Room 3123
Sacramento, CA 94249-0079

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

Dear Honorable Weber:

As a former Member of the State Board of Equalization, I request that you oppose the above bill for the following reasons.

This bill would severely restrict the public service of the Board of Equalization (BOE) and State Controller to nonprofits and residents of our state. Board-sponsored events would be negatively impacted: such as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, Nonprofit Seminars, International Symposiums, Campaign Against Poverty Initiative, Connecting Women To Power Conferences Career Development Program, Workshops, State Job Fairs, Pathway to Success events, Senior Citizen Empowerment Conferences, College Grant & Scholarship Program events.

The resulting "reporting nightmare" this measure would create for all nonprofits, their donors and sponsors, and BOE Members is a serious and costly problem. A donation of \$1 to a nonprofit organization (in support of a charitable, governmental, or legislative event involving a Board Member), from any employee of a company or taxpayer which is an "agent, party, or participant" with a case that might come to the Board one year before or one year after the donation, must be reported to the Board.

Failure to do so could be considered an illegal act; and failure of the Board Member to disqualify themselves would be an illegal act. Further, if a Board Member is required to return a behested payment or "contribution" in order to avoid being disqualified from voting on a matter, the nonprofit will be forced to return the money to the donor who helped pay for the expenses of a charitable, governmental, or legislative event, or sponsored the event – even if it was in the form of in-kind goods and services.

From a practical standpoint, this places an enormous administrative, as well as economic, burden on all concerned.

Sincerely,

Claude Parrish
Assessor
County of Orange

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