



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Judy Chu, Ph.D.**  
**Chair**

**4<sup>th</sup> District – Los Angeles**

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## **Judy Chu Announces Free Income Tax Filing Assistance**

**Monterey Park** – Judy Chu, Chair of the State Board of Equalization (BOE) and member of the Franchise Tax Board (FTB), today announced the opening of a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site in Monterey Park. This free income tax filing service assists disabled, low to moderate income, and non-English speaking Californians in completing simple federal and state income tax returns. Assistance is typically provided February 1 through April 15.

Last year, this free service helped over 400,000 Californians. “VITA is a free service that enables thousands of Californians to apply for money saving tax credits and file accurate and timely returns” said Chair Chu. “I’m proud my office is able to host this free service and encourage Californians to also take advantage of other income tax opportunities such as the ReadyReturn and CalFile programs.”

The VITA program has more than 550 sites in California with more opening every day. VITA sites are staffed by volunteers trained by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to provide free assistance to tax filers throughout California. For the nearest VITA location, contact the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) at 800-852-5711 or search for the location nearest you on the FTB website: [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov). The Monterey Park site will be able to provide assistance in Chinese, English, and Spanish Monday through Wednesday until April 15. Call 323-980-1221 to make an appointment.

Chair Chu represents the Fourth Board of Equalization District, which includes Los Angeles County. She won election to the BOE in November 2006 and was elected Chair of the Board of Equalization in January 2008. Chair Chu is a voting member of the Franchise Tax Board.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

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