



For Immediate Release
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Jerome E. Horton Announces Annual Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings

Providing a forum for business and property taxpayers to present ideas for improving the California State Board of Equalization's administration of its tax programs, the annual Taxpayers' Bill of Rights hearings will be held June 21, 2011 at the BOE District Office in Culver City and on September 20, 2011 at the BOE's headquarters building in Sacramento, Board of Equalization Chairman Jerome E. Horton announced today.

"During these challenging economic times, I am committed to ensuring that every taxpayer is heard," said Horton. "By listening to taxpayers' ideas and concerns, we help families, individuals and small businesses across our state while stimulating local economies during our slow economic recovery."

Each year the elected Board Members of the State Board of Equalization hold public hearings in both Sacramento and Culver City where taxpayers are encouraged to share their ideas and concerns related to BOE's administration or oversight of business taxes and property tax. In addition to safeguarding the rights, privacy, and property of taxpayers, Board Members are interested in discussing ways they can help taxpayers better understand California's tax laws.

Event: Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearing
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2011
Time: Approximately 1:30 P.M.
Place: State Board of Equalization District Office
5901 Green Valley Circle, Suite 207
Culver City, CA 90230

Event: Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearing
Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2011
Time: Approximately 1:30 P.M.
Place: State Board of Equalization Headquarters Building
450 N Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearing in Culver City and Sacramento will be webcast live at www.boe.ca.gov. Taxpayers or others interested in making a presentation at the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings are invited to contact the BOE Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office by calling 888-324-2798, or inquiring via email at www.boe.ca.gov/info/emailtra.htm. More information about the annual hearings is available online at www.boe.ca.gov/meetings/heartra.htm.

Enacted in January 1989, the Harris-Katz California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Law requires that the BOE ensure that the rights of California taxpayers are protected during the assessment and collection of sales and use taxes. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was expanded in 1993 to include special tax programs such as excise, fuel, and alcohol taxes, and the Morgan Property Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was added in 1994. The BOE is required by law to conduct public Bill of Rights hearings annually.

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization Legislative Committee chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience with the Board of Equalization. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$48 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. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office: www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra.htm

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate's 2009-10 Annual Report: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra0910.pdf>

Publication 70, *Understanding Your Rights as a California Taxpayer*: www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub70.pdf

Taxes and Fees Administered by the Board of Equalization: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub41.pdf>

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