



SEN. GEORGE RUNNER (RET.)

MEMBER  
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION  
**CALIFORNIA'S TAX BOARD**

April 8, 2014

Assembly Member Raul Bocanegra, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation  
1020 N Street, Room 167A  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2249 (BLOOM) - TAX ADMINISTRATION: TAXPAYERS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE ▪ SUPPORT ▪**

Dear Assembly Member Bocanegra,

I am writing to urge your support of Assembly Bill 2249, which will increase the threshold of funds the Board of Equalization's Taxpayers' Rights Advocate is authorized to restore to the taxpayer upon a finding that the levy or notice to withhold threatens the health or welfare of the taxpayer, his or her spouse and/or dependents. This bill would increase the current amount the Advocate is authorized to order returned from \$1,500 to \$2,300.

As an elected member of the Board, I frequently hear from taxpayers, including many small business owners, who are struggling to get back on their feet as a result of California's economic downturn. When these taxpayers fall behind on their tax payments, the state may issue a levy or notice to withhold, which can sometimes negatively impact their ability to provide basic necessities for their family.

AB 2249 remedies this problem by providing the Advocate the needed discretion to restore additional funds, thus helping struggling business owners. I am pleased to support the bill and urge your "aye" vote when it is heard before the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee on April 21.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Runner".

GEORGE RUNNER  
Second District

cc: Assembly Member Richard Bloom  
Julia King, Policy Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus