



SEN. GEORGE RUNNER (RET.)

MEMBER
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
CALIFORNIA'S TAX BOARD

August 25, 2016

Governor Jerry Brown
ATTN: Michael R.O. Martinez, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary
Governor's Office, Legislative Unit
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1559 (DODD) – BOE: RETURNS AND PAYMENT: EXTENSION: DISASTER • REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE •

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing to respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 1559, which would extend the amount of time—from 30 to 90 days—the Board of Equalization may grant a taxpayer to defer payment of specified fees and taxes in the event of a disaster.

Three of the counties I represent—Kern, San Bernardino and Los Angeles—recently experienced large wildfires. Additionally, in Chairwoman Fiona Ma's district, three counties—San Luis Obispo, Monterey and Lake—also experienced devastating wildfires. The public and private financial impacts will be significant for these rural areas and their residents.

As you know, California experiences many disasters and granting temporary relief following a disaster, such as a wildfire, earthquake or mudslide, will help individuals and business owners direct their limited resources where they are needed most—into restoring their livelihoods.

Even under normal conditions, doing business in California is challenging. Extending payment deadlines by 60 days in the event of a disaster seems a reasonable accommodation to give taxpayers more time to recover and prepare tax returns. Therefore, I urge your support of this important piece of legislation that will take effect upon your signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Runner", written over a light blue horizontal line.

GEORGE RUNNER
1st District

cc: Assemblyman Dodd