



For Immediate Release
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Skyrocketing High Speed Rail Costs *George Runner says, "I told you so."*

As a State Senator, George Runner co-authored and signed the official ballot argument against Proposition 1A, which authorized California's High Speed Rail project. Runner issued the following statement today in response to the revelation that California's high speed rail project will cost more than twice as much as originally estimated.

"When Californians narrowly passed Proposition 1A in 2008, they were told the high speed rail project would cost \$40 billion dollars to complete. They are now being told it will cost more than twice that amount. I warned in the ballot argument I co-authored against this proposition that costs could skyrocket to almost \$100 billion. That's exactly what is happening and it's unfortunate that I am able to now say, 'I told you so.'"

"It's only fair that the governor and Legislature go back to the voters to see if they want to pay an additional \$60 billion for this rail project. Failing to do so would be a breach of contract with California taxpayers. With chronic high unemployment and families and businesses just struggling to survive, it is unfair to assume taxpayers will want to buy the same project for more than twice the price."

Elected in November 2010, George Runner represents more than nine million Californians as a member of the State Board of Equalization. For more information, visit www.boe.ca.gov/Runner.

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