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BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
450 N STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

MARCH 22, 2023
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
BOARD MEETING

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ITEM L2a
AGENDA STRUCTURE UPDATE

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1 APPEARANCES

2 For the Board of
3 Equalization:

Honorable Antonio Vazquez
Chair

4 Honorable Sally J. Lieber
5 Vice Chair

6 Honorable Ted Gaines
7 First District

8 Honorable Mike Schaefer
9 Fourth District

10 Hasib Emran
11 Appearing for Malia M. Cohen
12 State Controller
13 (per Government Code
14 Section 7.9)

15 For the Board of
16 Equalization Staff:

17 Yvette Stowers
18 Executive Director

19 Henry Nanjo
20 Chief Counsel
21 Legal Department

22 Mary Cichetti
23 Clerk
24 Board Proceedings and
25 Support Services

Cathy Taylor
Chief
Board Proceedings and
Support Services

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1 STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

2 450 N STREET, SACRAMENTO

3 MARCH 22ND, 2023

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6 MS. CICHETTI: Then we're going to continue on
7 to Board Member Matters; Item L2, Board Member
8 Initiatives; L2a, Agenda Structure Update.

9 Discuss recommended options for Board
10 Member -- Board Meeting agenda template and procedures
11 for Board modification and approval, presented by
12 Chair Vazquez.

13 MR. VAZQUEZ: Thank you.

14 Members, as an elected State body, we are
15 required to allow members of the public to attend and
16 participate as fully as possible in our discussions and
17 decision-making processes on every item.

18 And our agenda notice requirements are based
19 on the state policy that the people must be informed so
20 they can keep patrol over their government.

21 Ms. Stowers and I and my staff worked over the
22 past month on how to modernize the current Public Agenda
23 Notice, looking at examples of other elected bodies.

24 We are jointly proposing today the changes set
25 forth in this -- in my memo linked to this item that

1 would add further clarity to the public we serve.

2 I'm going to ask Ms. Stowers to present the
3 new agenda template. But we are open to your input and
4 any additional suggestions you may have after her
5 presentation.

6 MR. VAZQUEZ: Ms. Stowers is coming up.

7 MS. STOWERS: Good afternoon, Members.

8 Yvette Stowers, Executive Director.

9 The proposed new agenda template, it is
10 attached to the agenda. It is Exhibit A. And we're
11 just changing the order of some things, first of all.

12 We will start our meeting as we normally do
13 with the Call to Order. And after that, and the pledge,
14 we will take up Public Comments on Matters Not on the
15 Agenda, bringing that up to the front of the agenda so
16 that those who have an interest can speak as soon as
17 possible, believing that's the best way, most
18 transparent and taxpayer-friendly method.

19 Then we'll move on, and we would have this as
20 a standing item, it will be our Consent Agenda. And,
21 like we currently have, and it will be generally
22 adoption of the Board Meeting minutes. That's how, if
23 we were looking at our March meeting, that would have
24 been on there.

25 And then we will follow that with our Tax

1 Program Matters. That would be our audits, our escape
2 assessments, our value setting. Everything that we do
3 statutory or by the Constitution, that will follow
4 there.

5 Chief Counsel Matters, that heading will
6 appear on the agenda. And when it's scheduled, it will
7 be detailed. For example, if Chief Counsel was going to
8 present on rulemaking, it would say "Rulemaking."

9 And then we go to the Executive Director's
10 Report, and it will be our standing report, starting
11 with my report, and then Report on Operational
12 Priorities, the Taxpayer Rights Advocate Report, the
13 Property Tax Department Report, which will have more
14 detailed reports behind Mr. Yeung.

15 Then we do our Leg. Report, and then we always
16 follow with our Board Member Matters and Initiatives.
17 And this is where, like today, you would have your
18 special presentations, anything that you guys would like
19 to take up.

20 And then we will have a standing heading of
21 Public Policy Hearings, where it is sometimes, as you've
22 discussed something as a Board Member matter, you may
23 decide that you would like to have a Public Policy
24 Hearing on that item. Or we may be receiving a lot of
25 questions and calls on a particular topic, and decide

1 that we would like to have a Public Policy Hearing so
2 that we can discuss the matter in a transparent way.

3 And then finally we will close. If there's
4 Closed Session, we will go into Closed Session, and we
5 explain why. And finally an adjournment.

6 So this is our proposal to streamline our
7 agenda and make it more easier for the public to know
8 the business of the Board of Equalization, and know when
9 they would have an opportunity to speak, and to speak
10 upfront of the agenda.

11 I thank Chair Vazquez and his team for working
12 with me and my team on preparing the proposal.

13 Any questions?

14 MR. VAZQUEZ: Seeing no comments --

15 MR. GAINES: Just a comment.

16 MR. VAZQUEZ: Oh, sure. Go ahead.

17 MR. GAINES: I like what I'm hearing. It
18 sounds a lot more logical and simple for us, but also,
19 more importantly, our constituents.

20 MR. VAZQUEZ: We're hoping, yeah, it would be
21 a little more user-friendly.

22 MR. GAINES: Yeah. That's great. Thank you.

23 MR. VAZQUEZ: Oh, yes. Deputy Controller, go
24 ahead.

25 MR. EMRAN: Thank you, Executive Director. I

1 appreciate your initiative here, and the Chairman for
2 bringing this forward.

3 I also do really appreciate you studying and
4 looking at what other State agencies are doing in order
5 for us to better streamline our processes to make it
6 more user-friendly, and enhance participation from the
7 public, as long as being easy to follow.

8 So kudos to you and the entire agency.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. STOWERS: I have to give credit to the
11 ladies to the left.

12 MR. VAZQUEZ: I'd like to entertain a motion
13 that we move this item and approve the new agenda.

14 MS. LIEBER: Move.

15 MR. GAINES: Second.

16 MR. VAZQUEZ: It's been moved by our
17 Vice Chair and seconded by Member Gaines.

18 Do we have any -- we don't have any written
19 comment on this, do we, Ms. Cichetti?

20 MS. CICHETTI: No, we do not have any written
21 comment, and no one in the audience to make a
22 presentation. But let's go out to the AT&T moderator.

23 MR. VAZQUEZ: Let's see.

24 MS. CICHETTI: AT&T moderator, can you please
25 let us know if there's anyone on the line who would like

1 to make a public comment regarding this item.

2 AT&T MODERATOR: Once again, if you'd like to
3 make a public comment on this item, press one, zero on
4 your phone's keypad at this time.

5 And we have no callers responding in queue.

6 MS. CICHETTI: Thank you.

7 So we have a motion to adopt the new agenda
8 template as presented.

9 The motion was presented by Vice Chair Lieber
10 and second by Mr. Gaines.

11 Let's take roll.

12 Chair Vazquez.

13 MR. VAZQUEZ: Aye.

14 MS. CICHETTI: Vice Chair Lieber.

15 MS. LIEBER: Aye.

16 MS. CICHETTI: Member Gaines.

17 MR. GAINES: Aye.

18 MS. CICHETTI: Member Schaefer.

19 MR. SCHAEFER: Aye.

20 MS. CICHETTI: Deputy Controller Emran.

21 MR. EMRAN: Aye.

22 MR. VAZQUEZ: So that's unanimous of those
23 present.

24 (Whereupon the item concluded.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

State of California)
) ss
County of Sacramento)

I, Jillian Sumner, Hearing Reporter for the
California State Board of Equalization, certify that on
March 22, 2023, I recorded verbatim, in shorthand, to
the best of my ability, the proceedings in the
above-entitled hearing; that I transcribed the shorthand
writing into typewriting; and that the preceding
pages 1 through 11 constitute a complete and accurate
transcription of the shorthand writing.

Dated: February 2, 2024


JILLIAN SUMNER, CSR #13619
Hearing Reporter