



**For Immediate Release**  
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### California State Board of Equalization Appoints New Executive Director

**Sacramento** – Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) welcomed Cynthia Bridges as its Executive Director. Horton announced the appointment after the Board met in closed session during its June 27 Sacramento meeting. Bridges will assume her new role beginning August 1, 2012.

“Ms. Bridges is a proactive and visionary executive who brings extensive experience to the BOE,” said Horton. “She offers proven leadership that will help guide the BOE in fulfilling its mission of providing fair, effective and efficient tax administration.”

“I am honored and humbled to be appointed Executive Director,” said Cynthia Bridges. “I look forward to working with the Board and staff to advance BOE’s vision and create innovative solutions to help the citizens and businesses of California succeed.”

Prior to being selected as BOE’s Executive Director, Bridges served as Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Revenue, a position to which she was appointed by three Louisiana Governors. During her 12 years in that role, Bridges helped to transform the agency into a recognized leader in customer service; one of many accomplishments during a 30-year career with the Louisiana Department of Revenue.



BOE Board Members welcome new Executive Director Cynthia Bridges.

Former Louisiana Governor Murphy 'Mike' Foster noted, “I couldn't be more pleased that the California Board of Equalization has chosen Ms. Cynthia Bridges as their next Executive Director. She was an incredibly efficient and principled Secretary who brought the Department of Revenue into the 21st Century.”

Louisiana Senator Karen Carter Peterson lauded the appointment, saying, “Secretary Bridges will undoubtedly serve the people of California with integrity and professionalism as she did here in Louisiana. I know I speak for many others in wishing her much success in her new endeavor.”

Various state and national organizations have honored Bridges for her outstanding contributions. Last year, Bridges was selected as one of the “Top 10 Tax Administrators” by the publication State Tax Notes, and the Baton Rouge Business Reports named her as one of the “Most Influential Women in Business” in 2007.

Bridges replaces Ms. Kristine Cazadd who is retiring in the fall after serving the Board for 22 years.

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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's Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. 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 \$50 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](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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