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Southern California Region Taxable Sales Grew by 9.1 Percent **BOE Third District Taxable Sales Grow 9.6%**

Sacramento – California consumers are opening up their wallets and spending more, announced Michelle Steel, Vice Chair of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), a positive sign for economic growth. A new report released today by the BOE shows that taxable sales in the Southern California region grew by 9.1 percent in the second quarter of 2011, while in the Third District, taxable sales grew 9.6 percent, compared with the second quarter of 2010.

Taxable sales in Orange County increased by 8.9 percent over the same period, while Riverside County grew 11.7 percent, and San Bernardino County was up 10.2 percent. Taxable sales in the City of San Diego increased by 10.7 percent. In Seal Beach, taxable sales grew by 25.7 percent and Huntington Beach was up 12.7 percent.

Preliminary BOE estimates, based on cash receipts, show continued growth with an increase of 8.3 percent statewide in the second quarter of 2012.



Statewide, taxable sales increased by 9.6 percent in the second quarter of 2011 compared with the same period in 2010. Taxable sales in the second quarter of 2011 totaled \$129.9 billion, \$11.4 billion more than taxable sales in the second quarter of 2010.

California taxable sales increased at a growth rate of 4 percent faster than California personal income (see chart).

The increase in taxable sales growth compared to personal income might indicate that consumers were more confident to use credit or loans even as income growth declined.

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Taxable Sales in California is a quarterly data report by the BOE on retail sales activity in California, as measured by transactions subject to sales and use tax. The report includes figures about statewide taxable sales by type of business, as well as statistics about taxable sales in all California cities and counties.

The report has a list of six tables by business, city and county, as follows:

1. Statewide Taxable Sales, By Type of Business
2. Taxable Sales, By County
3. Taxable Sales in the 36 Largest Counties, By Type of Business
4. Taxable Sales in the 22 Smallest Counties, By Type of Business
5. Taxable Sales in the 272 Largest Cities, By Type of Business
6. Taxable Sales in All Cities Except the 272 Largest

To view the Taxable Sales in California Report, visit: www.boe.ca.gov/news/tsalescont.htm

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53.7 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.

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