



ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL
**LEGISLATIVE
ACTION GUIDE**
2015 - 2016





ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL

2 PARK PLAZA, SUITE 100 | IRVINE, CA 92614 | 949.476.2242 | FAX: 949.476.9240 | WWW.OCBC.ORG

Dear Business Partner,

Enclosed for your review is Orange County Business Council's (OCBC's) 2015-16 Legislative Action Guide, which serves as OCBC's legislative platform directing its advocacy programs in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Led by a dedicated Board of Directors and its President and CEO, Lucy Dunn, OCBC serves Orange County's business community, working with public agencies and academia to ensure the county's long term economic vitality and quality of life.

To support the efforts by both business and government to promote an environment conducive to job growth and economic prosperity, the OCBC Legislative Action Guide has been developed with significant review and contributions from OCBC members to enumerate OCBC's positions on major policy issues. This biennial resource includes contact information for the county's local, state, and federal elected officials to encourage dialogue between business and government, as well as an advocacy section that includes valuable communication and legislative tools.

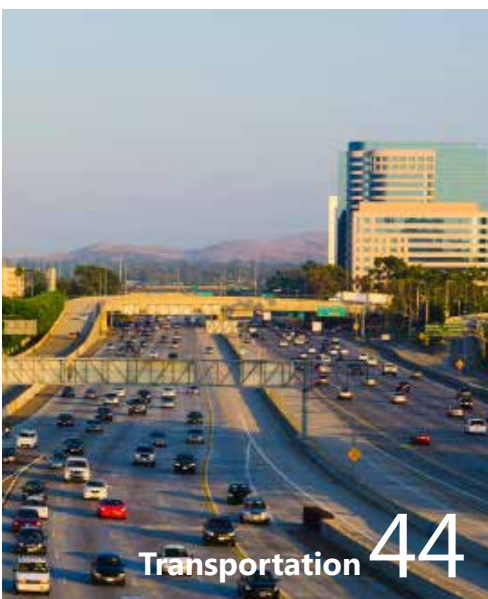
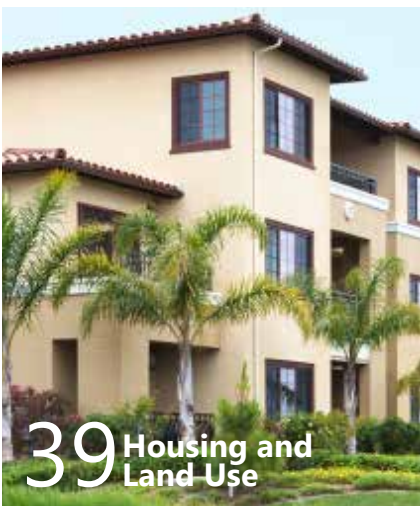
You may also locate an electronic copy of the Legislative Action Guide online at www.ocbc.org. I encourage you to review the website frequently for up-to-the-minute news on the activities of Orange County businesses, OCBC-sponsored events, as well as legislative tracking and OCBC position statements.

Please consider OCBC a resource throughout the year and do not hesitate to contact our dedicated team with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bryan Starr
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs
Orange County Business Council

TABLE OF CONTENTS



- 6 About OCBC
- 8 OC Fast Facts
- 9 OCBC Investors

PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

- 12 Climate Change
- 14 Cybersecurity
- 16 Energy
- 19 Economic Development
- 21 Environmental Regulation
- 23 General Business Issues
 - 23 Corporate Governance
 - 24 Employee/Employer Relations Issues
 - 27 International Trade
 - 28 Litigation Reform
 - 29 Outsourcing
 - 30 Taxes and Fees
 - 31 Consumer Privacy
 - 32 Telecommunications
 - 33 Workers' Compensation Reform
- 35 Government Reform
- 37 Healthcare
- 39 Housing and Land Use
- 41 Infrastructure
- 43 Tourism
- 44 Transportation
- 46 Water Policies
 - 46 Water Supply, Water Quality, and Waste Water Management
 - 49 Ocean Water Quality and Stormwater Management
- 52 Workforce Development and Education



ELECTED OFFICIALS _____

56 Federal Government

- 56 The Executive Branch
- 57 The Cabinet
- 58 California's United States Senators
- 59 Orange County Congressional Delegation
- 61 California Congressional Roster

62 State of California

- 62 Governor and Legislative Leadership
- 63 Orange County Legislative Delegation: Senate
- 64 California State Senate Roster
- 65 Orange County Legislative Delegation: Assembly
- 67 California State Assembly Roster

69 County of Orange

- 69 Orange County Board of Supervisors
- 72 Orange County Public Schools



ADVOCACY TOOLS _____

72 Government Resources



ABOUT OCBC

MISSION STATEMENT

Orange County Business Council (OCBC) represents and promotes the business community, working with government and academia to enhance Orange County's economic development and prosperity in order to preserve a high quality of life.

CORE INITIATIVES

INFRASTRUCTURE: Increase investment in construction, management, and maintenance of Orange County's infrastructure, which is integral to the region's long-term viability.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: Lead the business community's efforts to further develop a high quality workforce that supports the growing technology-based workplace.

WORKFORCE HOUSING: Increase the supply, choices, and affordability of housing available for a growing Orange County workforce.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Create a full spectrum of jobs to enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for Orange County residents.

Underpinning the implementation of these initiatives is the expert research of OCBC's Chief Economic Advisor, Dr. Wallace Walrod. Dr. Walrod and his research team produce in-depth analyses of the state, regional, and local economy, among them the acclaimed *Community and Workforce Indicators Reports* and the *Workforce Housing Scorecard*.

Finally, OCBC maintains an aggressive communications program to highlight the organization's many efforts and accomplishments, and presents high profile events to build awareness and support for OCBC initiatives.

HISTORY

OCBC formed in 1995 through the merger of the 100-year old Orange County Chamber of Commerce, the Industrial League of Orange County, the Orange County Economic Development Consortium, and the public-private think tank, Partnership 2010.

OCBC accomplishes its mission by leading a high-profile, proactive advocacy program at the county, state, and federal level for business interests throughout California and the nation. OCBC focuses on four core initiatives: improving infrastructure, enhancing workforce development, increasing the supply of workforce housing, and advancing economic development.

OCBC's history of accomplishments includes assisting in reorganizing local governance structures, advancing business-friendly legislation, leading local and regional economic development opportunities, helping charitable partners achieve their financial objectives, promoting high-tech and innovation initiatives, and numerous other programs.

Through its core initiatives, OCBC works to make Orange County a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

OCBC STAFF



Lucy Dunn

President and CEO

ldunn@ocbc.org | 949.476.2242



Dr. Wallace Walrod

Chief Economic Advisor

wwalrod@ocbc.org | 949.794.7237



Bryan Starr

Senior VP of Government Affairs

bstarr@ocbc.org | 949.794.7210



Alicia Berhow

VP of Workforce Development and Advocacy

aberhow@ocbc.org | 949.794.7215



Matt Petteruto

VP of Economic Development

mpetteruto@ocbc.org | 949.794.7209



Delaine Moore

Communications Manager

dmoore@ocbc.org | 949.794.7220



Patty Conover

Communications Specialist

pconover@ocbc.org | 949.794.7221



Larry Brose

VP of Investor Relations and
Business Development

lbrose@ocbc.org | 949.794.7223



Danette Parente

VP of Finance and Administration

dparente@ocbc.org | 949.794.7234



Vicki Blaser

Director of Accounting and Investor Sales

vblaser@ocbc.org | 949.794.7207



Sabra Benes

Events Manager

sbenes@ocbc.org | 949.794.7241



Betsy Boyd

Executive Assistant to President and CEO

bboyd@ocbc.org | 949.794.7216



Jocelin Jimenez

Administrative Specialist

jjimenez@ocbc.org | 949.794.7200



ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL

OC Fast Facts

Orange County Business Council

Orange County is the **sixth largest county in America** with approximately 3.1 million residents (more population than 20 states in the union).

In terms of land area, it takes **25 Orange Countys** to fill San Bernardino.

By 2035, Orange County is projected to **add almost 300,000 jobs**, a growth rate of approximately 19 percent.

Orange County is perceived to be a bedroom community of Los Angeles, but for the past few years, **more people have commuted to Orange County** to work than have commuted to Los Angeles.

Orange County has the second most diverse industry cluster portfolio in the United States, which contributed to the county holding its own during the recession.

OCBC research shows **business and professional services jobs** in Orange County will double over the next 20 years.

Orange County has become the **medical device capital of the world**.

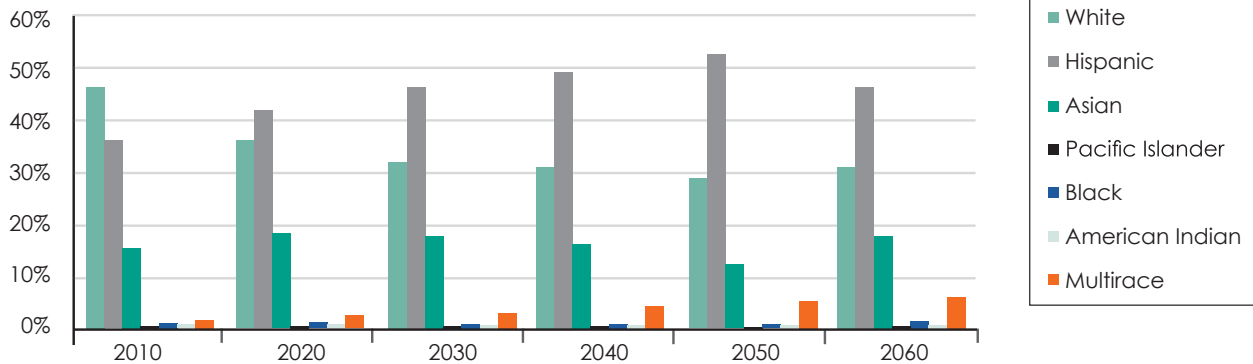
In March 2014, unemployment in Orange County hit 5.8 percent, the lowest unemployment rate recorded since June 2008.

Orange County has one of the **lowest high school dropout rates** compared to the state and neighboring counties.

Housing construction in Orange County is on the rise and is projected to have net gain of approximately 140,000 housing units by 2035, a 12 percent increase.

Orange County is remarkably diverse:

Projected Components of Population by Ethnicity in Orange County, 2010-2060



Source: State of California, Department of Finance

OCBC INVESTORS

Abbot Medical Optics
Abacus Project Management, Inc.
Abbott Medical Optics
ACEC
AcuFocus
Advanced Equipment Corporation
AECOM
Aera Energy LLC
AES Huntington Beach
Affordable Housing Access, Inc.
Allergan, Incorporated
AltaMed Health Services Corporation
Alzheimer's Family Services Center
Amcal Multi-Housing, Inc.
Angels Baseball LP
Apartment Association of Orange County
Arts Orange County
Arup Engineering
Association of California Cities-Orange County
AT&T California
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
Automobile Club of Southern California
Banc of California
Bank of America, California
Barclays Capital - Public Finance
Best Best & Krieger LLP
BNSF Railway
The Boeing Company
Boy Scouts of America, Orange County Council
Brandman University
Brookfield Homes
BSH Home Appliances Corporation
Building Industry Association of Orange County
Building Owners and Managers Association of Orange County
Burns & McDonnell
C J Segerstrom & Sons
California Apartment Association South Coast
Cadiz, Inc.
CalCIMA
California Coastal Communities, Inc.
California Housing Consortium
California State University, Fullerton, Mihaylo College of Business and Economics
California State University, Long Beach Center Club
Cerrell Associates
CH2M Hill
Chevron
Children and Families Commission of Orange County
Children's Hospital of Orange County
Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse
City of Aliso Viejo
City of Anaheim
City of Dana Point
City of Fullerton
City of Huntington Beach
City of Irvine
City of Lake Forest
City of Mission Viejo
City of Santa Ana
City of Tustin
City of Westminster
CMTC
Coast Community College District
Colette's Children's Home
Competitive Analytics
Concordia University and Center for Faith and Business
Cox Business in Orange County
Curt Pringle & Associates
Discovery Science Center
Disneyland Resort
DMB Pacific Ventures c/o Stice & Block LLP
Dorsey & Whitney, LLP
Dot Printer, Incorporated
Edwards Lifesciences
The Elite OC
Emerson Process Management
Emulex Corporation
Experian
Exxon Mobil Corporation
Farmers & Merchants Bank of Central California
First American Title Company
FivePoint Communities, Incorporated
Fluor Corporation
Freedom Communications & Orange County Register
FSB Core Strategies
Fujitsu Frontech North America, Inc.
Fullerton Chamber of Commerce
GardenWalk Hotel I, LLC
Geosyntec Consultants
German American Business Association, Inc.
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Girl Scout Council of Orange County
Girls Incorporated of Orange County
Golden State Water Company
Goodwill of Orange County
Guida Surveying, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of Orange County
Haworth, Inc./IOS
HDR Engineering, Inc.
Hill International
HNTB Corporation
Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian
Horowitz Management, Inc.
Hospital Association of Southern California
Hotel Irvine
Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce
ICF International
ima
Irvine Chamber of Commerce
The Irvine Company
Irvine Health Foundation
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Technology Corporation
The Island Hotel
Iteris, Inc.
ITT Corporation
Jackson DeMarco Tidus Peckenpaugh
Jamboree Housing Corporation
Japan Business Association
John Wayne Airport
Jones Lang LaSalle
JPMorgan Chase & Company
Kaiser Permanente of Orange County
The Kay Family Foundation
KB Home
KCOMM
Kimball International, Inc.
Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc.
Kofax, Incorporated
KPMG LLP
LA/OC Regional Consortia
Lantronix
Latham & Watkins
Leighton
Lennar Homes
LSA Associates, Incorporated
Majestic Realty Company
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP
Mater Dei High School
The Mayer Corporation
Meggitt Sensing Systems
Mesa Consolidated Water District
Metropolitan Water District Southern California
Microsoft Store
Milan Capital Management, Inc.
MMFX Technologies Corporation
Municipal Water District Orange County
NAIOP SoCal Chapter
National Community Renaissance of California
National University
Newmeyer & Dillion LLP
Newport Banning Ranch LLC
North Orange County Community College District
Nossaman LLP
NRG Energy - West
Oakley
OC STEM Initiative
Olive Crest
OneOC
Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center
County of Orange
Orange County Association of Realtors
Orange County Automobile Dealers Association
Orange County Bar Association
Orange County Department of Education
Orange County Fair & Events Center
Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)
Orange County Professional Firefighters Association
Orange County Sanitation District
Orange County Taxpayers Association
Orange County Transportation Authority
Orange County Visitors Association
Orange County Water District
Orange County's United Way
Pacific Chorale
Pacific Life
Pacific Mercantile Bank
Pacific Symphony
The Paradies Shops
Parker Aerospace
Parsons
Parsons Brinckerhoff
PBS SoCal
Port of Long Beach
Poseidon Water
Project Access
Project Tomorrow
Psomas
PTS Staffing Solutions
QSC Audio Products, LLC
R.J. Noble Company
Ralphs Grocery Company
Rancho Mission Viejo LLC
RBF Consulting
Reed & Davidson LLP
Regional Center for Orange County (RCOC)
Rutan & Tucker, LLP
Saddleback Memorial Foundation
San Diego Gas and Electric
Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce
Santa Margarita Water District
SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union
Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County
Segerstrom Center for the Arts
Skanska
Snell & Wilmer LLP
South Coast Air Quality Management District
South Orange County Community College District
South Orange County Chamber of Commerce
Southern California Edison
Southern California Gas Company
St. Joseph Health System
SunPower Corporation
Support Our Anaheim Resort Area (SOAR)
Taller San Jose
Theory R Properties
THINK Together
Tiger Woods Learning Center
Time Warner Cable
Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc.
Toyota Motor Sales, USA
Transportation Corridor Agencies
Union Bank
United Parcel Service
University of California, Irvine
US Bank
Vandermost Consulting Services
Verizon Wireless
Vital Link
Vons, A Safeway Company
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
Water Conservation Partners, Inc./Adan
Ortega Associates
Wells Fargo
Western Digital Corporation
Western States Petroleum Association
Willdan Group, Incorporated
The Wooden Floor
Working Wardrobes for a New Start
World Affairs Council



PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES





CLIMATE CHANGE (AB 32 AND SB 375)

BACKGROUND

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill [AB] 32) into law in the fall of 2006. AB 32 is a group of measures that requires businesses to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In 2008, the Governor signed into law Senate Bill (SB) 375, which will set in motion new regulation that will compromise the long-term funding of a broad spectrum of state and local transportation programs and projects including critical long-term funding for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Since the passage of SB 375, the state of California has defunded transit, transportation, and redevelopment support for local government. This continues years of state diversion of revenues from gasoline, sales, income, and other taxes needed for local programs. Local government cannot achieve these mandated changes without increased, not decreased, state support. For example, today's bus transit service levels would have to increase by approximately 92 percent to reach the projected service levels that were used around the time of the 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Currently, the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) is projecting an approximately 12 percent increase by 2035, based on the latest revenue forecasts.

The "business as usual" base case SB 375-modeling shows the need to continue pre-SB 375 state funding levels to achieve even a 6 percent per capita reduction in carbon emissions by 2020. Therefore, any level or range of implementation goal must be conditioned on the availability of specific performance standards for state support for planning, transit, transportation, redevelopment, or other necessary funding to pre-SB 375 levels.

AB 32 and SB 375 were passed when there was a more robust economy, a 4.8 percent unemployment rate, and a public priority list that ranked environmental concerns at a higher level than today. There was also an expectation that, although out in front, California would merely be leading the way for a pending national program. California appears to be alone. The state has a higher unemployment rate than the national average and needs 2 million new jobs in all sectors, including clean technology, to keep an economic recovery on track. Since circumstances have changed rather dramatically, there should be similar acknowledgement in the implementation of AB 32 and SB 375.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

The state's ambitious effort to curb GHG emissions is undergoing regulatory implementation by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Regulations created by CARB should be implemented with stakeholder input from the business community. Current GHG reduction targets appear unachievable without significant behavioral changes of residents and would have severe ramifications for the state's economic recovery. California cannot afford to further lose its businesses, including manufacturing, wholesale trade and logistics, as well as its jobs to other states or countries where GHG regulations are more relaxed or non-existent.

“Local government cannot achieve these **mandated changes** without **increased**, not decreased, **state support.**”

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Minimizing the compliance costs by actively pushing for measures that effectively reduce carbon while allowing for continued economic growth;
- Creating final draft Scoping Plan that includes a fair and equitable consideration of Orange County's business and transportation needs;
- Adequate funding for planning and implementation of state mandates at the local level;
- Regulations that are developed in a way that allows for economic growth in California; and
- Policy approaches that recognize and encourage California's leadership and innovation in the environmental arena and also the creativity of its citizens to pioneer new, low-carbon technologies.

Orange County business opposes:

- Taxes, fees, or mandates that place California or Orange County at a competitive disadvantage;
- Federal, state, and local fees that are imposed by agency/department officials rather than being duly approved by the voters or appropriate elected officials; and
- Mandates or regulations not based on a scientifically derived and uniform threshold of significance for GHG emissions used in environmental analysis.



CYBERSECURITY

BACKGROUND

It has long been known that the United States is a prime target of massive and sustained cyber-attacks into national computer, banking, and communication networks. What has not always been as clearly understood is that massive and sustained cyber-attacks pose a threat to U.S. economic competitiveness and to critical infrastructure resources that are central to everyday life. Victims of major cyber-attacks in 2014 included Target, J.P. Morgan Chase, UPS, Home Depot, Google, eBay, and U.S. Investigations Services (a federal contractor).

These threats can originate from domestic or overseas sources and from the public or private sector. The National Intelligence Estimate identifies China as the country most aggressively seeking to penetrate the computer systems of American businesses and institutions to gain access to data that could be used for economic gain. In theory, however, cyber-attacks can originate from nearly any jurisdiction and be motivated by any number of objectives.

Targeted attacks against businesses and governments increased to approximately 30,000 a year in 2012. It has been estimated that cyber breaches cost the U.S. from \$24 billion to \$120 billion and cost the global economy between \$300 billion to \$1 trillion. Federal officials indicate that in 2013, they notified more than 3,000 U.S. companies that their computer systems had been hacked; marking the first time the U.S. government has revealed how often it tipped off the private sector to cyber intrusions.

The truth is that hacking is easy — 80 to 90 percent of successful breaches of corporate networks required only the most basic techniques. In addition, a total of 96 percent of successful breaches could have been avoided if the victim had put in place simple or intermediate controls. A strong majority of breaches take months to be discovered; the average time is five months and discovery was usually made by a third party rather than the victim. And now, there are almost 50 million different viruses on the Internet with only 20 percent being detected by anti-virus software.

One rather challenging factor is that the nature, speed, and sophistication of the threats posed to U.S. companies and institutions continuously evolves. Those devising malevolent intrusions of U.S. networks learn, react, and improvise almost as nimbly as do the safeguards designed to prevent such intrusions. The public-private nature of this phenomenon is clear in that cyber-attacks present national security, public safety, economic sabotage, and law enforcement threats (that is, areas that traditionally involve government's most basic roles). At the same time, the targets of such cyber-attacks are quite often private companies and individuals and thus, the initial defense mechanisms also reside in the private sector.

Federal and state governments are becoming more active in this realm. In 2014, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released its "Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity." The Framework is an analytical tool for assessing cybersecurity threats and applying risk management best practices to them. The Framework is a set of recommendations and adoption of its content is voluntary. Other federal agencies (including the SEC, FTC, FCC, and FFIEC) are increasing their focus on cybersecurity and these issues are increasingly being addressed by corporate boards, insurance underwriters, and others.

All of this is occurring while more devices are becoming interconnected in what has been referred to as the "Internet of Things" in which products, people, processes, and data are connected. This era promises great innovation opportunities, but also increased (and different) cybersecurity risks than those that currently prevail.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

A major objective of cybersecurity public policy should be to encourage investments in cybersecurity safeguards (including preparedness and mitigation measures) and their deployment as part of an enterprise's broader risk management strategy. It is the objective of OCBC to foster the participation of Orange County companies and institutions in cybersecurity policy discussions in Washington D.C. and Sacramento.

“All of this is occurring while more devices are becoming **interconnected in what has been referred to as the **“Internet of Things”** in which products, people, processes, and data are connected. This era promises great **innovation opportunities**, but also **increased (and different) cybersecurity risks than those that currently prevail.**”**

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Continued public-private partnership of the type which led to the 2014 Framework issued by NIST;
- Maintenance of an essentially voluntary approach to cybersecurity practices in the private sector, as opposed to a system of legally mandated practices;
- Passage of the Cyber Information Sharing Act in congress and similar bills at the federal or state levels that remove barriers to the sharing of information about cyber threats and cyber events;
- Adherence to transparent rule-making procedures by government agencies considering an increase in their oversight of private sector cybersecurity practices in activities falling under their respective jurisdictions;
- Creation of either a single federal standard or efforts to harmonize disparate state standards pertaining to data breach notification criteria and procedures;
- Strict consistency with a risk-based approach for further government oversight of private sector cybersecurity practices;
- Efforts designed to make Orange County's elected representatives at various government levels champions of reasonable and appropriate cybersecurity policies;
- Active engagement by Orange County companies with legislative and regulatory officials and participation in various public-private policy councils on cybersecurity; and
- Increasing awareness in the hands of Orange County companies about government sales opportunities involving cybersecurity goods and services (including technical requirements).



ENERGY

BACKGROUND

ELECTRIC ENERGY

OCBC generally supports the deregulation of the utility industry as a vehicle for opening markets, promoting competition, and producing costs and value benefits to consumers.

California needs a comprehensive approach to fixing the energy market. In the short term, and to minimize the chances of electricity shortages, the state needs to implement a viable demand reduction and conservation program on an accelerated basis. It must ensure that all existing generation plants are ready to operate, if called upon, and find opportunities to accelerate the in-service date of any proposed transmission projects.

In the long term, adequate generation and transmission capacity is essential to meet current requirements and future growth within the state and to promote a more competitive market. Energy infrastructure must expand to meet capacity needs and maintenance schedules for existing and future generation. Businesses must be provided with clear and concise rules (e.g., status of departing load tariffs and standby impacts) for implementing more efficient and reliable distributed and co-generation systems.

A key component of this energy market redesign will be the elimination of rate cross-subsidies that hide the true cost of electricity to residential customers, which in turn causes customers to increase their consumption and inflates the cost of electricity to commercial and industrial customers. The state needs to establish rules governing the adequacy of resources to meet retail load that ensures clear accountability for retail supplies and prevents cost shifting and free-riding.

NATURAL GAS

Deregulation of natural gas at the wellhead began when Congress passed the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978. This legislation ended federal control over the wellhead price of “new” gas on January 1, 1985, but kept in place price controls for gas produced from wells drilled prior to 1977. In 1989, the Natural Gas Wellhead Decontrol Act lifted all remaining federal wellhead price controls on natural gas.

Since then, the price of natural gas across the United States has been subject to market forces, rising and falling with changes in supply and demand. In this competitive market, the price of natural gas is set between all buyers (including industrial users, power generators, marketers and gas utilities like Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas and Electric) and all sellers (including independent producers and major oil and gas companies).

Demand for natural gas has continued to increase throughout the U.S. but supply production must keep pace with that demand, particularly for low-carbon fuels such as clean natural gas. While forecasts made by different federal agencies may differ in their exact expectation for the increased demand for natural gas, one thing is common across studies: demand for natural gas will continue to increase steadily for the foreseeable future.

BIO-GAS

Bio-gas/biomethane has the potential for substantial benefits in both the electric and transportation sectors with the potential to produce a net savings of greenhouse gas emissions by avoiding the emissions of methane. OCBC also supports the development of biofuels in California to provide jobs and boost the state's economy.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

OCBC and its partners advocate national, state, and local policies that support a diverse supply of renewable energy sources, such as bio-gas, wind, solar and geothermal, provide adequate transmission and distribution infrastructure systems, and promote the efficient use of energy.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

California needs reliable, stable, and competitively priced energy supplies for its businesses and consumers.

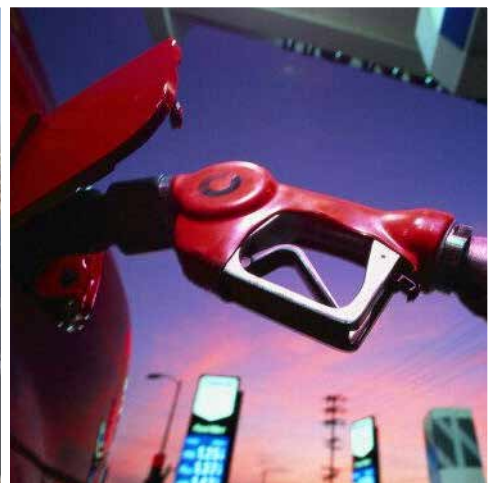
“OCBC and its partners advocate national, state, and local policies that support a **diverse supply of renewable energy sources**, such as bio-gas, wind, solar and geothermal, provide adequate transmission and distribution infrastructure systems, and promote the **efficient use of energy.**”

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Comprehensive and coordinated national, state, and local energy policies that will ensure adequate supplies and reasonable pricing in order to facilitate economic growth and preserve quality of life;
- A market structure that will promote realistic pricing policies, accurate price signals (devoid of cross-subsidies), market stability, and access to competitively priced supplies;
- Restoration and implementation of direct access in a program that avoids cost shifting, ensures that providers are accountable for their share of continued supply reliability, and preserves the financial viability of California's utilities;
- Improvements in generation, transmission, and distribution infrastructure required to support future Statewide growth and reserve needs;
- Improved grid “intelligence” in order to integrate distributed energy resource technology and micro grid infrastructures into the power grid;
- Support of public-private partnerships to expedite public infrastructure projects, including allowance for design-build and other procurement options to support infrastructure activity, leverage investment, and aid in job creation;

- Removal of unnecessary regulatory impediments and improvement of coordination between regulatory agencies with overlapping responsibilities to eliminate unnecessary obstacles and inconsistent regulatory findings that could negatively impact these future improvements;
- The easing of barriers to maintaining, upgrading, and building natural gas pipelines and electrical transmission lines;
- Close coordination between state and local regulatory agencies to ensure responsible protections for the environment while supporting reasonable growth needs;
- Improvements in demand-side energy management and conservation programs for businesses and consumers leading to more predictable load shed capabilities during periods of high energy demand;
- Continued research, development and use of cleaner, alternate power sources such as co-generation/distributed generation, renewable energies, and fuel cell technologies;
- Appropriate incentives to ensure economic volumes of renewable gas remain accessible;
- A more participatory role for business in regulatory processes so as to promote a better understanding of rate structures upon business operations;
- The inclusion of natural gas as an element of clean energy and air quality standards so as to expand the energy choices for California businesses and consumers;
- Employing new and proven natural gas based applications such as combined heat and power technologies to broaden electric generation production;
- The development of alternative energy sources such as wind, solar, hydro, and bio-gas;
- Help California meet its clean air and GHG goals by supporting incentives that help buy down the initial cost of heavy-duty natural gas vehicles involved in the goods movement.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BACKGROUND

Orange County is one of the most economically competitive and prosperous regions in the world. Maintaining the county's competitive edge will require an intense commitment to preserving and enhancing a positive business climate in the evolving global economy.

Orange County continues to transform from a traditional manufacturing economy to a high-tech, knowledge-intensive economy. OCBC conducts substantial research on rapidly growing industry clusters, results of which have validated this ongoing transformation. A key trend is the significant loss of defense, aerospace, and computer hardware industry activity over the past 20 years and the rise of the health care, business, and professional services clusters.

Whether Orange County will continue on this path will hinge in no small part the ability to cultivate a workforce fit for an increasingly inter-dependent and competitive global economy. The most important economic development tool for Orange County's future is arguably its education and workforce training system. Creating a skilled workforce will require bold ideas and concerted actions among business leaders, policy-makers, educators, workforce professionals, researchers— and most importantly— parents and students.

Attainable but ambitious short-term goals must be paired with an understanding and vision about Orange County's long-term prospects. A highly skilled workforce, affordable workforce housing, and efficient transportation networks are of paramount importance to the successful growth and prosperity of the region's economy. Workers' compensation and health care costs, restricted access to capital, and limited tax-based incentives must be addressed in order to discourage businesses from leaving the state or expanding elsewhere.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Orange County business requires state and federal policies that enable businesses to thrive in the global economy and a comprehensive strategy for local governments to achieve each community's economic goals.

“The most important economic development tool for Orange County's future is arguably its education and workforce training system.”

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Reinstatement of the California Manufacturers Investment Credit (MIC), federal research and development investments, manufacturers job credit proposals, and other strategies that will support manufacturing and growth industry clusters that produce high multiplier effects and strengthen global competitiveness;
- Economic development programs that take into account the current workforce trends, including the need to emphasize bio and high technology training;
- Stable funding through identifiable source(s) and a public policy environment conducive to meeting the region's transportation, housing, and workforce education needs;
- Effective and timely communication between businesses, workers, and educators, to ensure that education and training programs target the needs of business;
- Economic development programs within educational institutions and other community-based organizations to produce a more qualified workforce;
- State and local government fiscal reform that will result in better land use decisions and provide a more reliable, long-term source of funding for local services;
- Small business access to technical assistance and capital;
- Permanent establishment of the California Competes Tax Credits, Manufacturing/R&D/Biotech Sales and Use Tax Exemption, and the New Employment Credit;
- A more balanced regulatory climate that enables businesses to overcome barriers to economic growth and comply with reasonable regulatory requirements; and
- International and domestic business incentives and programs to further expand the county's economy including logistics/ports industries including multi-year reauthorization of the U.S. Export-Import Bank and an expansion of Free Trade Agreements with foreign nations.



ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

BACKGROUND

Reasonable protections of the environment are important for sustaining Orange County's high quality of life. However, conflicting and costly regulations can jeopardize the business climate, which supports and finances the essential services contributing to the quality of life enjoyed by Orange County citizens. It is important to protect the environment without sacrificing economic prosperity or global competitiveness.

Excessive, conflicting, and overlapping requirements among local, state, and federal jurisdictions and across media (i.e., air, water, solid waste) can create inefficiencies that stifle job creation and divert business dollars away from developing products, investing for growth, and adding value to customers and shareholders.

Policy makers must coordinate their oversight and take into consideration market-oriented approaches and incentives that offer maximum compliance flexibility and achieve cost-effective outcomes.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Regulations should protect the environment without sacrificing economic prosperity or global competitiveness.

"It is important to protect the environment without sacrificing economic prosperity or global competitiveness."

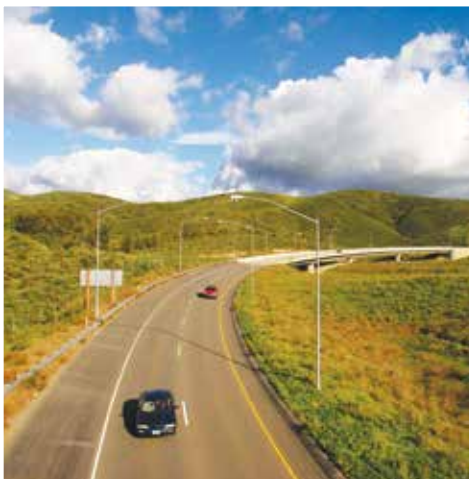
POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Environmental regulations that are based upon sound science (e.g., realistic risk assessments, accurate pollutant inventories, and credible environmental and economic models) and produce achievable, cost effective, and measurable benefits to public health and the environment;
- Improved methods and techniques for modeling and measuring health risks, securing accurate pollutant inventories, assessing environmental impacts, and measuring the effectiveness of control measures;
- Consistency and coordination in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other environmental review processes among governmental agencies to streamline environmental reviews, expand participation by project proponents, and ensure fairness in environmental review fees;

- Efficient environmental analysis through integration of environmental and planning laws and the elimination of CEQA duplication;
- CEQA litigation for compliance issues rather than delay to reduce frivolous, excessive, and costly lawsuits;
- Local access to and accountability from regulators within regional and statewide frameworks that promote statewide consistency;
- Innovative, market-oriented approaches for meeting environmental standards such as emission reduction credit banking and trading, habitat conservation plans, carbon labeling of goods sold within the state, and incentives for voluntary impact reductions;
- Participatory and inclusive processes between the regulated community, regulators, and other stakeholders leading to consensus-based rulemaking and the correction of deficiencies;
- Environmental justice policies that weigh environmental effects against economic opportunity so that the overall quality of life of the affected populations is not adversely impacted;
- Urban runoff and ocean water quality strategies that include thorough assessments of all sources; prevention of pollution through education; cost-effective regional and watershed-based solutions and treatment options; and public infrastructure improvements;
- Reforms in California's Electronics Recycling Program to clarify requirements in order to better facilitate compliance by both manufacturers and consumers; and
- The evaluation of regulatory impacts upon housing supply, infrastructure development, and other critical land uses, and upon business and the economy.

“Excessive, conflicting, and overlapping requirements among local, state, and federal jurisdictions and across media can create inefficiencies that stifle job creation and divert business dollars away from developing products, investing for growth, and adding value to customers and shareholders.”





GENERAL BUSINESS ISSUES

1 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

BACKGROUND

Since the passing of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has approved a variety of other corporate governance statutes and regulations to oversee and control the manner in which corporations and similar business entities are managed.

OCBC recognizes the importance of maintaining public confidence in corporate markets through ethical and competent corporate management. At the same time, profits and ethics are not mutually exclusive. Ethical patterns in the boardroom permeate down through the corporation. The best way of ensuring that a corporation's business will prosper to the benefit of the shareholders, directors, officers, employees, and customers, is to create a corporate culture that encourages everyone in the corporation — from the directors to the officers to the employees — to perform their duties in an honest and competent manner.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policies should promote standards of corporate governance that guide boards of directors and corporate officers in managing their corporations in a competent and ethical manner.

POSITIONS

Orange County business asserts that rules regarding the governance and management of corporations, including those pertaining to accounting procedures, should ideally be created and imposed voluntarily by a corporation's directors and officers, rather than mandated by law. OCBC realizes however, that in some cases, mandatory laws are preferable in order to ensure uniform compliance or to foster public confidence.

Orange County business supports:

- Establishing a climate that encourages competent, qualified, honest, and ethical people to commit the time and effort necessary to become corporate directors;
- Protecting not only a corporation's majority and minority shareholders, but also its employees, customers, suppliers, creditors, and the public at large;
- Safeguards against negligent or incompetent decision-making while still giving directors and officers the freedom to take reasonable business risks;

- Reinforcing corporate directors' duties to appoint competent and ethical managers as officers of the corporation and monitor and evaluate the performance of those officers;
- Encouraging corporate directors to represent the interests of all shareholders, including minority shareholders;
- Addressing conflicts between state and federal laws in areas such as insider trading, release of corporate information, and other corporate governance matters;
- Promoting corporate establishment of internal guidelines that provide clear descriptions of the directors' and officers' positions and duties;
- Setting criteria by which directors can determine the level of detail required of board meeting minutes (and supporting documentation) to allow regulators and independent auditors to determine whether board members have properly exercised their fiduciary duties;
- Allowing corporations flexibility in selecting tools to assist in effective corporate governance; such as establishing specialized committees of the board of directors (e.g., audit and compensation committees) and obtaining directors' and officers' liability insurance to attract qualified personnel; and
- Establishing reforms to alleviate costs of Sarbanes-Oxley compliance.

2 EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYER RELATIONS ISSUES

BACKGROUND

Public policies and regulatory climates can either boost or negatively impact the ability of California's businesses to compete locally, nationally, and globally. In considering public policies and regulations impacting the workplace, it is important for decision makers and regulators to be mindful of the ramifications of their decisions for California business owners who are striving to remain competitive in the global marketplace.

COMPENSATION ISSUES

Wage and compensation issues have a direct impact on labor costs and therefore impact a business' overall competitiveness. California has enacted policies and regulations that go well beyond federal protections for employees. This places California businesses at an economic disadvantage when competing nationally and globally with businesses from other states and has the potential to drive businesses to leave California.

Proposals to impose government-mandated wage increases continue to appear in cities and counties throughout California. In most cases, these proposals apply to businesses providing a minimum yearly level of contracted services to the local government. The wage floors in these laws generally are in the range of \$7 to \$9 per hour, often with an additional \$1.25 per hour if employers do not provide key benefits (mainly health insurance) in covered jobs. Taxpayers also are affected because the companies pass on the higher costs to the cities and or counties with which they have contracts.

CHEMICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURE

Businesses inherently need to ensure that the workplaces are healthy and safe for all employees. To this end, various regulatory measures protect all workers from chemical exposures (e.g., combustibles, airborne contaminants) and other work environment exposures (e.g., noise, temperature, ergonomics). Businesses must pay a cost impact to comply with these regulatory measures and thus, there is a direct correlation between these types of regulations and a business's competitiveness. To the extent that California enacts policies and regulations that exceed federal standards for employee protection, California businesses are at an economic disadvantage compared to those operating in other states.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

Independent contractors serve an important role in the economic development of Orange County by providing expertise, flexibility, quality improvement, and cost savings to all types of businesses. Recent case law is eroding the cost-effectiveness of independent contractors, making their clients liable for health care, unemployment benefits, workers' compensation, savings plans, pensions, and even stock options. The continuation of this trend will deprive businesses of a vital resource.

RIGHT TO WORK

Labor unions are increasingly active in influencing the state legislature on workforce issues. In particular, they are pressing for the expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act's (FMLA) binding arbitration in labor-management disputes, limitations on employers' abilities to screen for legal residency status, and for such protections as requiring a janitorial company that has been purchased by a new owner to continue the employment of the existing staff for a 60-day "trial" period. It is important to create a better balance between the employees' rights to organize and business vitality.

AVAILABILITY OF LABOR

The Orange County labor pool will experience significant growth over the next 20 years. However, the county is also forecasted to experience a substantial loss of its 25- to 34-year-old demographic. As a result, by 2025, the largest age groups will be in the 0- to 14-year-olds and 65+ demographics. The county must respond to the fact that the population is aging, while we lose the single greatest age group that contributes to the job base.

The most significant reason for this shift in the labor force can be attributed to a lack of affordable housing opportunities for young families and first-time homebuyers, as well as transportation challenges that make it increasingly difficult for this segment of the labor force to commute to and from, as well as within, Orange County for work. Policymakers and business leaders must work to find solutions to these issues and confront the additional challenges that businesses have in finding employees with strong math and science skills.

MEDICAL/BENEFIT PARITY ISSUES

Businesses often experience friction with organized labor groups over medical and other employment benefits. Many labor union contracts call for full family medical plans paid totally by the employing company. California businesses will experience continued friction in this regard over the next few years. Additionally, state and local policymakers, including the Orange County Board of Supervisors, must work to reform the current employee pension obligation system, which is in danger of becoming insolvent if administration and contribution reforms are not considered. Refer to the Health Care section of this guide for more information.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policies should enable business to respond competitively to new opportunities while promoting safe environments for employees.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- California's conformity with federal law in the areas of overtime and alternative work schedule flexibility;
- Efforts to keep California from further exceeding federal laws for:
 - Minimum wage,
 - Exempt and non-exempt classifications,
 - FMLA, and
 - Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) discrimination (e.g., age discrimination, sexual harassment, etc.);
- The right of employees and employers to enter into agreements for Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR);
- Realistic policies with respect to ergonomics, chemical and environmental exposures, and other work environment issues backed by sound science as a foundation and with full discussion with all parties, including labor, industry, and government;
- A consistent definition of independent contractors, simplified rules regarding independent contractor/client relationships, and the elimination of financial penalties, such as back taxes and benefits obligations, arising from good faith misclassifications;
- Limitations on the activities of unions where the employees of a company have indicated a lack of desire to unionize;
- Limitations on the use of binding arbitration in labor/management negotiations;
- Legislative review of existing statutes with a focus towards a more equitable balance of the rights of employers, employees, and organized labor; and
- A better balance between employee privacy and business responsibility, including limits on business liability where privacy legislation precludes employers from asking or securing employee information.

Orange County business opposes:

- Prevailing and living wage mandates and ordinances.



3 INTERNATIONAL TRADE

BACKGROUND

Orange County's thriving economy will continue to expand into global markets, supporting local enterprises and sustaining the economic vitality of Orange County. Currently, over 40 percent of the exports in Orange County come from computer and electronic high-tech companies.¹

Congress granted President Bush fast track negotiating authority (also called Trade Promotion Authority [TPA]) in 2002, allowing the administration to negotiate trade agreements that Congress can approve or disapprove but cannot amend or filibuster. Unfortunately, fast track authorization expired in 2007. Reauthorization for this executive authority enables the U.S. to participate effectively in important negotiations to protect U.S. economic interests in the areas of intellectual property, agriculture, trade services, key industry sectors, and emerging economics. Fast track policies provide an appropriately balanced role for congress and are clearly in Orange County's economic interests.

Reauthorization of fast track authority will help continue to increase high-tech competitiveness and ensure access to foreign markets by eliminating tariffs/duties on Information Technology (IT) products, medical equipment, telecommunications products, and infrastructure.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policy and regulatory environments should enhance opportunities for high-technology companies and others in global trade.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Unlimited fast track authority for the President in international trade negotiations;
- United States participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and adherence to its precepts for the promotion of fair standards;
- Removal of barriers that hinder U.S. companies in foreign markets and the elimination of unfair trading practices;
- Negotiations in the U.S. and other countries designed to protect patents, trademarks, copyrights, and intellectual property;
- Agreements and standards that facilitate the development of a port security strategy to secure movement of goods and services, and long-term strategies to avert work stoppages at West Coast ports;
- Science-based policies concerning electrical and electronic waste and consistency between U.S. and European policies in this area;

¹ Source: California State University, Fullerton Center for Economic and Environmental Studies.

- International trade education designed to increase general awareness, understanding, and participation in the growth of international business;
- Opening new markets to international trade; and
- Education and workforce development policies that empower U.S. citizens to remain the highest skilled workers in the world.

4 LITIGATION REFORM

BACKGROUND

The perception that California does not offer a business-friendly environment is due, in part, to a legal system that is inefficient, expensive, and slow to respond to genuine needs. A virtual legal lottery exists in many different areas of the law; particularly wrongful termination, discrimination, and product liability claims. As a result, employers and their insurers often face the painful choice of settling frivolous lawsuits early as an economic tradeoff to mounting a more expensive—though usually successful—legal defense. Civil litigation reform is critical to California’s economic success.

In a 2011, Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse (CALA) voter survey, 74 percent of California voters believe enacting lawsuit reform is an important part of improving California’s business environment and attracting and keeping jobs. In a recent CALA/National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB)-California survey of California’s small business owners, 97 percent said that junk lawsuits are a major problem in California. Two out of three reported they could hire more employees if they had greater protection against abusive lawsuits. During these hard economic times, Californians need more jobs, not more lawsuits. Californians could save \$5.2 billion in tort costs and the State could create between 115,000 and 320,000 jobs by improving its legal environment, according to a new report released by NERA Economic Consulting.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Litigation reform is needed to halt the crippling effects of unwarranted, excessive, and frivolous lawsuits on businesses, consumers, and taxpayers.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Reforms to the legal system to discourage and eliminate frivolous lawsuits, including reasonable limits upon recoveries, particularly in punitive damages and non-economic damages, and prevailing party recovery of litigation expenses in cases of questionable merit;
- Use of arbitration and mediation for prompt and cost-effective dispute resolution in appropriate circumstances, including employment, health care, property, and automobile accident cases;
- Construction dispute litigation reform and other legal strategies to encourage settlement of issues between builders and homeowners;
- The cornerstones of the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA), which place reasonable limits on attorneys’ fees and non-economic damages in medical malpractice cases;

- New laws to ensure consumers are fully informed of their rights and options when hiring a contingency fee attorney;
- Appellate review of rulings granting class action certification, similar to established law providing for appellate review of rulings denying class certification;
- Stricter guidelines for the use of science and hired “experts” in the courtroom;
- Improvements to California’s system for jury service and jury selection to achieve a more representative sample of the community to serve as jurors;
- Preservation of reforms enacted through California’s Unfair Practice Act, intended to reduce excessive litigation and abusive lawsuits targeted at California businesses;
- New laws for disclosure of partnerships between the attorney general and private attorneys pursuing litigation on behalf of the state;
- Reforms to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) legislation that encourages access rather than litigation; and
- Action by the attorney general to stop abusive lawsuits alleging violations of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65).
- Greater public scrutiny of recent troubling “public nuisance” lawsuits filed by private contingency-fee lawyers seeking paydays on behalf of public organizations.
- Tighter regulation of lawsuit loans, in which lenders offer plaintiffs in lawsuits “up front” cash to cover immediate living or medical expenses for the duration of their lawsuits. These predatory loans - often with triple-digit interest rates - have a disproportionate effect on minority and disadvantaged communities.

Orange County business opposes:

- Attempts to circumvent the workers’ compensation system in the construction area;
- Attempts to publicize confidential business information obtained in the “discovery” process of a lawsuit; and
- Attempts by the attorney general to regulate business through litigation instead of the public legislative process.

5 OUTSOURCING

BACKGROUND

Offshore outsourcing is a result of the increasing global economy. For local businesses to be competitive in the global economy, the high cost of doing business in California must be reduced. In the absence of a more competitive business climate in California, offshore outsourcing provides a way to reduce costs and enables California companies to compete globally and grow in California.

Protectionist legislation will hurt California’s economy, increase the cost of California government, and encourage companies to leave the state, taking jobs with them. The best way for California to protect its job base is to ensure a diverse workforce that will be fit for an increasingly interdependent and competitive global economy.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policy should promote and maintain a competitive business environment in Orange County, California, and throughout the nation.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Open markets here and abroad;
- Flexibility for employers in reducing their costs of doing business;
- Contracting governmental services to the private sector when appropriate through the competitive bidding process; and
- An in-depth study of the benefits of offshore outsourcing to the economy of California and the nation.

Orange County business opposes:

- Protectionist legislation.

6 TAXES AND FEES

BACKGROUND

Business taxpayers pay more than their share of the cost of government. Additional tax increases, especially those that target business, will cripple California's economic growth and job creation.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Businesses benefit from simplified tax structures, lower taxes, taxes logically associated with specific government services, and the enactment of incentives supporting economic growth.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Balanced local, state, and federal budgets that reduce spending without shifting costs to or imposing mandates upon other levels of government;
- Federal tax reform, which may include consideration of the flat tax, a national sales tax, or value-added tax to meet overall policy objectives as a replacement for current income tax structure;
- Lower capital gains taxes;
- Tax credits and other incentives for saving and investing, including increased 401(k) percentages and increased ceiling limits on contributions;

- The correction of Orange County's current status as a "donor" county with regard to state and federal transportation funding;
- The use of private sector investment, rather than governmental taxes and spending, where possible, to accomplish public benefits;
- Majority vote approval of tax increases for community infrastructure improvements, coupled with oversight and cost-containment;
- Clear distinctions between taxes and user fees; a direct nexus for fees to an administrative cost or provision of public service;
- Thorough investigation as to both benefits and downsides to the consideration of sales taxes on internet transactions and/or internet access;
- Extreme caution in considering the modification or elimination of taxpayers' ability to have elected officials, as opposed to appointed staff, resolve California tax disputes;
- Tax incentives to maintain and create high-value jobs in the manufacturing sector; and
- Review of public services provided by government, privatization of public services wherever possible, restructuring of governmental agencies for greater efficiency, and streamlining of the tax structures.

Orange County business opposes:

- Taxes that place California or Orange County at a competitive disadvantage;
- Split roll taxation;
- Taxes on services; and
- Federal, state, and local fees imposed by agency/department officials rather than those duly approved by the voters or appropriate elected officials.



7 CONSUMER PRIVACY

BACKGROUND

Privacy is an issue that continues to grow in importance. Due to an increase in paperless transactions, better technology, and new ways to market to consumers, keeping one's personal history secure is increasingly difficult. In recent years, we have seen a rise in identity theft, which costs consumers, businesses, and financial institutions over \$56 billion each year. Federal and state legislatures and regulators continue to enact laws to protect consumers.

A federal standard on privacy would create national guidelines that help businesses and commerce between states. Due to privacy limitations set forth by the FMLA and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), it is difficult for businesses to determine the extent to which an employee will be away from his/her job due to injury. This can create staffing issues and make it difficult for businesses to mitigate problematic conditions. Companies need access to the information critical to meeting their obligations of returning injured workers to work and ensuring safe work environments.

Privacy needs to equally protect and benefit the consumer, business, and employee. Business understands the need for consumer privacy protection and works closely with government and law enforcement to create a secure climate. With electronic commerce expanding at a high rate, lawmakers must gain a deeper understanding of how consumers benefit from information sharing and allow businesses greater flexibility.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

To advocate for strong consumer privacy protection, while continuing to promote business opportunities.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Privacy guidelines set forth in the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, renewed by Congress in 2004;
- Fair and equitable state and local regulations that align within federal guidelines and don't interfere with a company's ability to serve its customers; and
- Legislation that allows businesses to access critical information required to respond to the workplace needs of injured or disabled employees and prevent further injury in the workplace.

Orange County business opposes:

- Burdensome privacy regulations that would stifle commerce while providing little protection to the consumer; and
- Local privacy ordinances that attempt to pre-empt state or federal legislation or regulation.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

BACKGROUND

Delivery of advanced data services to all Americans is important to the future of the U.S. economy. Some experts believe the internet is the largest single contributor to the growth of the U.S. economy and a powerful influence on the growth of global commerce.

The internet helps to disseminate ideas and information anywhere in the world inexpensively and immediately. As the internet develops, it will continue to bring more services and products to more people, often faster, easier, and cheaper than current market mechanisms.

The smooth flow of goods, services, and information into, out of, and within Orange County is critical in this new economy. It demands a well-maintained, well-coordinated communication and global information infrastructure. Private sector innovation and investment is integral to meeting these objectives.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policy and regulatory frameworks should promote advanced communications networks to promote the exchange of knowledge, trade, and communications.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Fulfilling the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 to fully open competitive markets and bring the benefits of competition to Orange County consumers;
- Fair and equitable regulations by agencies, such as the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and Federal Communications Commission (FCC), to ensure equal treatment for all communications providers and limited regulation by the FCC with regard to advanced communications services;
- Private sector investments to develop state-of-the-art broadband capabilities for businesses and citizens in Orange County;
- Local government support and prompt permitting for the placement of infrastructure leading to expansion, construction, and implementation of advanced broadband networks, including the development of wireless internet connectivity (Wi-Fi) access countywide;
- A policy that protects the rights of business and residential consumers to select the communications provider of their choice by providing communications companies the authority to enter buildings and businesses without prejudice;
- Fair and equitable area code relief plans that minimize inconvenience to customers; and
- Limiting the municipal rights-of-way fees to the reimbursement of the city's actual costs of administering the use of the public rights-of-way so that these fees are not used to generate general fund or other special purpose revenues.

Orange County business opposes:

- Taxes, fees, or burdensome regulations that would have the effect of stifling electronic commerce; and
- City-owned utilities from offering communications services since their powers of taxation and regulation provide an inherent competitive advantage relative to other communications providers.



WORKERS' COMPENSATION REFORM

BACKGROUND

Whether paid in the form of insurance premiums or direct expenses for medical treatment and benefits, workers' compensation is a significant cost of doing business for every public and private employer in California. Despite California employers paying a much higher cost than employers in other states, the outcomes for California's injured workers have been worse. Only after years of exorbitant costs and crippling inefficiency did state leaders begin to make fundamental reforms to the workers' compensation system, occurring between 2002 and 2004. Unfortunately, the gains made in reforming the workers' compensation program have been slowly chipped away over the last few

years. A 2010 workers' compensation cost survey of all states, conducted by the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, found that California, which ranked the ninth highest costs in 2009, has jumped to fifth place, with an average of \$2.68 per \$100 payroll, which is 31 percent above the national average. California employers pay 18 percent of national benefits, but employ only 12 percent of the covered workforce. Workers' compensation costs to employers must be further reduced to ensure that California remains economically competitive in the world market. In addition, the system could use more reforms to ensure an efficient and clear process allowing employers and employees to resolve workplace accidents without having to navigate the court system, making the process quicker and less contentious.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

California needs an efficient and cost-effective workers' compensation system that provides fair compensation for legitimate claims while protecting employers from the financial and productivity effects of abuse.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Controlled costs through the elimination of fraud, reduced litigation, and the consistent application of established principles for determining eligibility;
- Best practices in the areas of standards, medical findings, and criteria applied uniformly to the application of workers' compensation law and the administration of the workers' compensation system to streamline the determination of disability, delivery of benefits, and decisions concerning the injured worker's ability to return to work;
- Elimination of financial and other incentives for claimants to seek legal representation;
- The option for employers to combine health care coverage for employees with the medical coverage provided through workers' compensation; and
- Efforts to address the problem of carrier insolvency that are consistent with the above principles.

Orange County business opposes:

- Any roll-back or amendments designed to weaken workers' compensation reform in California.





GOVERNMENT REFORM

BACKGROUND

It is prudent to regularly review the role of government and the manner in which public services are provided. Orange County's population increased 1,400 percent in the past 50 years, growing from 216,000 to over 3 million people. It is the second most populous county in the state and the fifth most populous in the U.S.

Orange County has 34 incorporated cities and more than 200 independent agencies that provide a myriad of services to its residents. Hundreds of directors serve on the governing boards of special purpose agencies, often hidden from public and/or media scrutiny. While the quality of public services provided by these government agencies is often very good, multiple management layers and overlapping service areas dictate a need for greater efficiency and accountability.

At the state level, long-term, stable funding for government services is critical. The lack of stable funding has resulted in many local governments passing numerous (and often burdensome) special fees and taxes. This situation has also caused governments to raise revenue by directly competing with the private sector to provide certain services.

OCBC urges the governor, the state legislature, municipalities and special districts to work for the adoption of stable, long-term, and reliable financing formulas for local governments that will in turn promote land use approvals that are not solely based upon revenue generation. These endeavors will result in a stronger economy for both Orange County and the state.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Californians should be able to rely on long-term, stable, reliable, and equitable funding for essential public services.

“At the state level, long-term, stable funding for government services is critical. The lack of stable funding has resulted in many local governments passing numerous (and often burdensome) special fees and taxes.”

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- State and local government finance reform that provides a long-term, stable financing mechanism for essential public services and infrastructure during both lean- and high-growth economic times;
- Accountability to the voters and other taxpayers that includes a form of funding for public services that is understandable to the voting public;
- Local government term limit reform that will be long enough in term to encourage leadership on governmental association and regional/special district governing boards;
- Services provided at the level of government closest to the people and with funds most closely related to the services, including greater reliance upon property taxes by local governments to provide property-related community services;
- Clarification of state and local governments' roles;
- Elimination of unfunded state mandates;
- Equitable redistribution of sales and property taxes to protect cities' long-term infrastructure, public safety, and human resources investments;
- Contracting governmental services out to the private sector through the competitive bidding process when appropriate; and
- Enactment of effective research/market-based pension reforms.

Orange County business opposes:

- Wasteful government spending;
- State raids on local government funding;
- Excessive and inconsistent term limits on elected officials;
- Legislation or regulations that are intended to harm or eliminate competition in a free marketplace; and
- Regional governmental bodies reaching beyond their scope or jurisdiction to create or influence policy.





HEALTH CARE

BACKGROUND

More than \$70 billion in tax revenue is spent in California each year on government-sponsored programs (i.e., Medicare, Medi-Cal, and County-sponsored health/mental health programs) for the otherwise uninsured. In Orange County, approximately one of every seven residents is below the poverty line to receive health benefits from Medi-Cal, the state's Medicaid program. Implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) has expanded Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) by guaranteeing coverage for the uninsured and moving many of those served in the County's health care program (MSI) into Medi-Cal. Before ACA, 17 percent or 526,340 of Orange County residents were uninsured. As of December 2014, it is less than 200,000. This is due in large part to CalOptima, Orange County's administering agency for the Medi-Cal program, which has seen significant growth in its membership as a result of the ACA.

The business of health care is projected to rapidly increase over the next five years, which includes replacing retiring workers. In addition to the high demand jobs for registered nurses, home health aides, medical and dental assistants, there is still a large need for radiology technicians, physical therapists and social and human service assistants. Employment growth varies between high-wage and low-wage jobs, and education requirements differ in every field.

The health care industry is also one of the most highly regulated and suffers from unsustainably low reimbursement from the government as well as unpredictability of funding. In Orange County and throughout California, we must explore new models that will use existing resources more efficiently. The business community must partner with elected and agency officials and influential stakeholders to forge creative, consensus-based solutions to health care access and support the providers.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Promote public/private partnerships to expand affordable health care coverage for all citizens; maximize free market options and choices; and minimize mandates upon employers, insurers, and providers. Identify sustainable, reliable funding sources for all initiatives and programs.

“The health care industry is also one of the **most highly regulated and suffers from **unsustainably low reimbursement** from the government as well as **unpredictability of funding.**”**

Orange County business supports:

- Monitoring the implementation of the ACA to ensure collective accountability, cost transparency, timely reimbursement to health care providers and reducing the red tape to employers;
- Competition in the health care market and among private-sector providers as the best means to achieve a more efficient, affordable, and quality-driven health care system;
- Preservation of MICRA in California and adoption of similar policies at the federal level. Restrictions on meritless lawsuits against hospitals and other providers alleging breach of government obligation to provide medical care to uninsured patients;
- Reasonable, cost-based reimbursements to health care providers in voluntary, contracted relationships with governmental entities to provide health care services;
- Emphasis in workforce development initiatives and the direction of workforce development funds toward initiatives that will increase the number of nurses and other health professionals needed in the Orange County workforce;
- Reasonable flexibilities in the California nurse/patient ratio regulations that recognize practical, workplace challenges and are consistent with the provision of quality hospital care;
- State/local fiscal reforms that address property tax distribution inequities in realignment formulas in order to bring Orange County closer to parity with other counties in providing health care services to their residents;
- Adequate funding to assist hospitals and medical personnel in planning for and responding to natural disasters or other mass casualty incidents;
- Seismic mandate relief for hospitals without the imposition of additional, unrelated regulatory burdens;
- The evaluation of current health care delivery models in Orange County, with an eye toward changes and reforms leading to greater efficiencies, better patient care, expanded health care access, and a sustainable system;
- Policies that promote the retention and growth of California's life sciences industry, with particular emphasis on issues that affect Orange County's ability to maintain its leadership in the medical device sector; and
- Development of options for employers to combine health care coverage for employees with the medical coverage provided through workers' compensation.

Orange County business opposes:

- Disparity in taxes, regulation, or mandated standards applied to private-sector health plans versus public-sector or union plans;
- Mandatory staffing ratios imposed by government agencies;
- Imposition of burdensome and inflexible standards on nonprofit hospitals in order to obtain tax-exempt status and financing;
- Mandates upon employers to procure health care coverage for employees; and
- Mandates on hospitals and other providers to provide services at government-imposed rates (de facto, forced contracting).



HOUSING AND LAND USE

BACKGROUND

A diverse housing market is critical to the long-term success of Orange County. A broad spectrum of housing products needs to be made available to residents. Whether it's a single-family detached home or a new high-rise condominium — owned or rented — residents of Orange County need choices and the cities within Orange County must plan to meet current and future housing needs.

Even with a down market, housing growth has not kept up with demand over the last 15 years. While rising income, job, and population growth are market factors, the regulatory environment has also played a major role. The high regulatory costs associated with housing production is one of the reasons Orange County's housing production has been so tepid relative to population, employment, and income growth. Each city charges housing permit fees to homebuilders in order to recover environment, planning, and school costs, among other less defined expenses. The median housing permit fee in Orange County was \$9,343 in 2000 and increased to \$12,049 by 2005 (an increase of 29 percent).

Beyond direct, per-unit housing fees, regulations can also slow housing construction. For people wishing to stymie development in their community (also known as "NIMBYs" for "Not in My Backyard"), CEQA has proven to be a popular and effective tool. Using CEQA, a claim against a developer can delay housing projects by as many as four years.

Land scarcity also affects the cost of housing. While Orange County is commonly characterized as "built-out," that perception is owed more to local cities' failure to zone land in a more economical fashion (i.e., more high density) than to actual spatial constraints. The result is an artificial scarcity of developable land. According to University of California Berkeley, Professor John Landis, a 10 percent reduction in supply of available land can increase home prices by 20 percent to 30 percent.

Finally, lost in the planning discussion in most communities are the economic ramifications of an insufficient housing supply. An aging population, high-cost housing, and inefficient transportation infrastructure limits the number and types of businesses that will locate or remain in an area. The only way for a region to plan for its future economic vitality is to link its housing and economic development planning together.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policy and regulatory frameworks should promote the highest and best land use practices for meeting California's housing, community infrastructure, recreation, business facility, and open space needs while preserving the quality of life in California.

"Even with a down market, housing growth has not kept up with demand over the last 15 years."

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Incentives to local governments to encourage overall increases to the housing supply, housing affordability, and choices of home types for a variety of families and workers;
- State and local fiscal reform to permit cities and counties to make land use decisions based upon good planning principles, rather than upon potential tax revenue generation or cost of service issues; address funding formulas that are unfair to Orange County; and establish a nexus between sources of funding and services and programs funded;
- Ongoing efforts to ensure that construction disputes are addressed outside of the court system;
- Elimination of so-called “prevailing wage” requirements and other legislative and regulatory barriers to the construction of affordable homes for working professionals and their families;
- Limits on taxes, fees, and assessments that unfairly burden new homes and new homebuyers with costs for community-wide infrastructure (e.g., roads, water, sewer, school) needs;
- Legislative and regulatory incentives for the development of for-purchase and rental housing near existing jobs and high job growth areas;
- Housing bonds within state capacity limits;
- Public/private partnerships to provide affordable, transitional, and emergency housing;
- Fair and economically sensible land use and zoning policies based on the most accurate state, regional, and local housing need projections to achieve a reasonable balance between residential and commercial uses as well as an appropriate jobs-housing mix that takes advantage of opportunities for transit-oriented development, infill, high-density, and mixed-use development;
- Creative approaches to redevelopment that are consistent with city or county general plans for housing, business, and mixed-use purposes, as well as complementary to the existing neighborhoods and surrounding communities; and
- Collaborative land use decision-making processes that permit and encourage business community input.

Orange County business opposes:

- Unfair application of zoning laws, including instances when businesses are unreasonably or unfairly treated;
- Urban limit lines, moratoriums, and other measures that stifle housing creation;
- Conversion of industrial-zoned areas to favor upscale housing developments and/or retail centers;
- Any form of rent control;
- State and local adoption of inclusionary zoning; and
- Comprehensive ballot-box land use planning that contradicts “good planning” or contributes to a constrained housing supply for a growing workforce.

INFRASTRUCTURE

BACKGROUND

OCBC supports a comprehensive approach to addressing the state's infrastructure needs and will work with the administration, state legislature, municipal and special district officials to ensure that a proportional share of State and federal infrastructure funds are secured for Orange County projects. Comprehensive infrastructure improvements including natural gas and electric transmission and distribution systems, transportation funding to repair roadways, reduce congestion, improve bridge safety, expand public transit, airports and improve port security, as well as transportation policies that promote water storage and improved delivery systems, along with funding for levee repair, and advanced flood control systems.

Investing a portion of state revenues in infrastructure leverages existing dollars and financing mechanisms and fosters public/private partnerships. A solid commitment to infrastructure investment is critical to the State's economic vitality.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policies should promote annual state, local, and private investments in infrastructure sufficient to meet the expanding needs of a growing population and a dynamic and healthy economy and to protect existing public and private infrastructure investments.

“Investing a portion of state revenues in infrastructure leverages existing dollars and financing mechanisms and fosters public-private partnerships. A solid commitment to infrastructure investment is critical to the state's economic vitality.”



Orange County business supports:

- Sustainable public and private infrastructure that protects public health, facilitates a well-educated public and workforce, supports a robust economy with reliable multi-modal transportation systems, provides reliable water and waste management systems, provides for reliable natural gas and electric transmission and distribution systems and supports sufficient “green” and open space infrastructure to promote quality of life;
- Protection for dedicated transportation-related tax revenues, annual funding to maintain and enhance personal mobility, and the movement of goods and services;
- Mileage Based Road Usage Charges to augment or replace gas tax;
- Investment strategies based on sound science and public policy criteria that direct resources into the most needed regional and local infrastructure categories and leverage State and federal dollars, maximizing the return on existing infrastructure investments;
- Contracting government services out to the private sector when appropriate, sustainable, and cost-effective for the construction of public infrastructure, using progressive contracting methods, including design/build, design/build/operate, design/build/own, and public-private partnerships;
- Priority funding or financing tools for joint-use, public-private infrastructure plans and projects;
- Utilization of the “Orange County Infrastructure Report Card” findings to create awareness of Orange County’s infrastructure needs and further the dialogue on asset management and smart public investments in infrastructure;
- Desalination technology to increase water supply reliability;
- Adequate rehabilitation and protection of critical levee and waterway systems in the Bay-Delta and other areas of the State that have critical importance to the long-term and sustained movement of water supplies to their points of use;
- Adequate investment in surface water impounds, recycle and reuse projects, and groundwater storage systems that protect the State from droughts, earthquakes, and other events that would otherwise cause significant economic dislocations, loss of human lives, or the loss of significant natural resources;
- Adequate and dedicated funding on an annual basis at federal, State, and county levels for infrastructure maintenance, rebuilding, and expansion;
- Fair-share federal and State funding to Orange County based on population, urban nature, and the amount of tax revenue contributed to federal and State budgets;
- Design-build authority for infrastructure construction;
- Restrictions on growth control policies and “smart” growth initiatives that may result in unintended consequences such as unreasonably higher housing costs, increased commute times that impact individuals and families, limited housing supplies that impact labor supplies, and unreasonably inflated land values that limit economic expansion; and
- Accelerated project delivery through streamlined environmental delegation and increased authority to local California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Districts and through use of alternative project delivery methods such as design-build, public-private partnerships, etc.



TOURISM

BACKGROUND

California's travel-related businesses employ nearly one million Californians directly and contribute approximately \$2.5 billion in local taxes and \$4.1 billion in state taxes. The tourism industry is California's fourth largest employer and fifth largest contributor to the gross state product. However, the tourism industry was greatly affected by the Great Recession with domestic leisure trips to California dropping from a 6.8 percent increase in 2010 to a 2.2 percent increase in 2015. Annual international leisure trips to California have similarly shown a decrease from a 10.6 percent increase in 2010 to a projected 5.5 percent increase in 2015. However, domestic visitor spending has continued to grow from \$95.1 billion in 2010 to \$126.4 billion in 2015, which represents a 6.6 percent increase over 2014 expenditures.

Tourism has historically accounted for over 15 percent of Orange County's workforce — one of the largest employment cluster. Unfortunately, the economic crisis had similar impacts to the Orange County tourism industry with a decline in jobs and overall consumer spending. However, since the economic crisis, the Orange County tourism industry has not only recovered all jobs lost during the recession, but its employment, as of August 2012, stood at its highest level ever recorded with 184,300 jobs and maintained the highest level of employment throughout the recession. In addition, visitor spending in Orange County totaled \$9.5 billion in 2012, up from \$8.1 billion in 2009. Orange County tourism also generated \$590 million in tax receipts in 2012, compared to \$508 million in 2009.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Legislation should focus on supporting and protecting the county and state's tourism industry, through responsible advocacy working with elected officials, government agencies, and the public.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Protecting the free market system and allowing businesses to grow;
- Encouraging public private partnerships for increased investment in tourism projects;
- Designation of John Wayne Airport as a Port of Entry by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) so that the federal government is responsible for all costs associated with federal inspection services;
- Investment in infrastructure to support leisure destinations and tourism attractions; and
- Government incentives for attracting private investment for dining, entertainment, and lodging establishments.



TRANSPORTATION

BACKGROUND

The smooth flow of people, goods, and services into, out of, and within Orange County is critical to Orange County's expanding economy. Employees must be able to get to and from work efficiently, as personal mobility is integral to a thriving economy and community. It is important that government not constrain citizens' movements in a way that diminishes their quality of life.

Equally important is the efficient regional movement of goods throughout Southern California. The ports of Los Angeles/Long Beach comprise the fifth largest seaport complex in the entire world and are the largest and second-largest container ports in the U.S. The Ports of Los Angeles/Long Beach receive and then distribute 35 percent of the nation's imported goods and Los Angeles International Airport handles 78 percent of the region's air cargo. Efficient regional goods movement is dependent upon a well maintained, well-coordinated, and safe transportation system, including a variety of transportation alternatives and adequate access to air cargo, air travel, and ground shipping facilities.

Further, long-term, dedicated, and stable funding is essential for the expansion, improvement, and maintenance of the transportation system. Business community and private sector participation and investment, as well as innovative project delivery, are key to meeting these transportation objectives.

California currently receives a return of approximately 95 percent of what state motorists pay in federal gas taxes as transportation dollars from Washington, D.C. This makes California a "donor" state in respect to the rest of the country. OCBC supports efforts to provide California with a greater return of its taxpayer dollars.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Public policy should promote safe, efficient, and cost-effective movement of people, goods, and services via air, highway, and rail conveyances.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

- Flexibility and local control on how to implement managed lane operations to allow for favorable bonding agreements, and for the continued appeal in creating such arrangements;
- Renewal of Public-Private-Partnership (P-3) Legislative Authority;
- Implementation of a state-wide managed lane policy;
- State agency respect for the sovereignty of local sales tax measures; and
- Flexibility for local control in using excess managed lane revenues within the same corridor as the facility is required to achieve local buy-in.

- An integrated, comprehensive, and efficient multi-modal transportation network in Orange County, meeting the needs of its residents and of a globally competitive Orange County, to include inter-county and intra-county highways, mass transit, passenger and freight rail, and air travel services, facilities, and infrastructure;
- The legal framework for Caltrans and other public agencies to utilize unrestricted alternate project delivery systems, including design-build, for appropriate transportation projects;
- Long-term, dedicated, and consistent funding sources by federal, state, and local governments equitably distributed for new road, highway and transit improvement projects, as well as for maintenance, safety, and capacity enhancements;
- A long-term federal highway bill that ensures funding for at least six years, with a focus on funding for projects in Orange County;
- Continued discussions about other options if long-term federal transportation funding;
- Reduced regulatory burdens for project approvals; increasing efficiency in meeting environmental requirements, and eliminating unnecessary duplication;
- Full and efficient implementation of the renewed Measure M, Orange County's 30-year, half-cent sale tax specifically dedicated to transportation improvements, approved by the voters in November 2006;
- Government agencies contracting services with the private sector for the construction of public infrastructure, using progressive contracting methods (i.e., design/build, design/build/operate, and design/build/own) and public-private partnerships when appropriate, sustainable, and cost-effective;
- Projects that eliminate conflicts between incompatible transportation modes and improve capacity (e.g., grade separations at railroad crossings);
- Support efforts to expand and extend existing design-build and public-private authority for infrastructure investments providing a sufficient timeframe to determine effectiveness, expanded eligibility, and allow the appropriate balance of partnership between state and local agencies;
- Oppose duplicative reporting mandates and efforts to impose additional requirements, beyond what is required in statute, on lead agencies awarding contracts using alternative project delivery mechanisms;
- Majority vote approval of local sales tax measures for specifically identified transportation improvements;
- Mileage based user fees to augment or replace the gas tax;
- Public/private partnerships, including private sector investments in intra-county and inter-county transportation infrastructure projects that do not convert existing facilities to toll facilities;
- Investment in the development and use of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies (e.g., smart vehicles, smart corridors, traffic management centers, and real-time traffic data information availability) to maximize use of existing facilities and capacity;
- Implementation of managed lane technology on select new lanes or conversion of carpool lanes to managed lanes to increase mobility and generate highway construction and maintenance revenue;
- Coordination between local, state, and federal permitting agencies conducting environmental reviews to expedite project delivery and promote cost-effectiveness along with environmental compliance; and
- High Speed Rail as the future of California's transportation system, with a focus on increased connectivity between Orange County, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.
- Responsible regulation of transportation network companies (TNCs) that promotes a free and competitive marketplace and enhances consumer choice.



WATER POLICIES

1 WATER SUPPLY, WATER QUALITY, AND WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT

BACKGROUND

California's economy, jobs, and water are inexorably linked. Job growth cannot continue without an adequate and reliable water supply to support the economy. Orange County's economic viability as a highly desirable location for homes, commerce, industry and tourism depends on the availability of a safe, reliable, and affordable water supply. To that end, OCBC serves as a resource for educating businesses, elected and appointed officials, and the public at large about programs and projects that will address this need.

A reliable water supply is integral to the state's economic health. Business, therefore, supports activities leading to a cost-effective, fair, timely, comprehensive, and long-term solution to California's water challenges. California's ability to address its water needs and Orange County's ability to manage its water supplies as efficiently as possible are key determinants in Orange County's economic prosperity.

Southern California is highly dependent on both Northern California and the Colorado River for its imported water supplies. Almost half of the water consumed in Orange County is imported. The continued reliability of these sources, however, is subject to the success of the Delta Plan and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). The plans achieve the co-equal goals of restoring the Delta ecosystem and water supply reliability and continued cooperative approaches to the management of the Colorado River.

It is critical to the Orange County business community that to actively support public policies to ensure the long-term reliability of water supplies from both the State Water Project and the Colorado River. It is time for the state to add cost-effective surface water storage projects and take steps to fix the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta conveyance system. This latter item is most important as more than 22 million Californians receive some or all of their water supply from the Delta. An interruption in the delivery of this supply will have highly predictable adverse effects on the state economy.

Ongoing planning and development of local water supply resources is vital to diversifying Orange County's water supply portfolio and alleviating potential future water shortages. This includes:

- Current and future expansions of the Orange County Water District's Groundwater Replenishment System;
- Development of the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and the South Orange Coastal Ocean Desalination Project in Dana Point;
- Expanded recycled water storage capability through the development of the Syphon Reservoir Recycled Water Storage Project;
- Expanded use of "purple pipe" recycled water for irrigation and other non-potable uses such as industrial processes and toilet flushing;

- Development of the Second Lower Crossfeeder;
- Additional stormwater capture behind Prado Dam; and
- Water banking and other projects, including those identified in the Municipal Water District of Orange County's 2004 South Orange County Water Reliability Study.

The completion of the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project is another critically important regional water project and a public safety necessity. In the event of a flood, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates that this project could save more than 3,000 lives, lessen the impact on more than two-million people, prevent destruction of 500,000 homes, curtail economic losses of more than \$14 billion in Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, and save millions of dollars across Southern California in mandated federal flood insurance costs. In addition, the completed project will provide water quality, habitat enhancement, and water supply benefits, as well. The business community recognizes the importance of flood protection to Orange County residents and businesses and supports the completion of the entire Santa Ana River Mainstem Project as originally planned. The project, which began construction in 1989, requires significant federal, state and local funds for its completion.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

The Orange County business community seeks to ensure it has safe, clean, high quality, adequate, and reliable water supplies in order to support the needs of economic growth and quality of life in Southern California.

POSITIONS

Orange County business supports:

STATEWIDE

- Securing Orange County's fair share of approved and proposed state water bond funding;
- State and federal funding of public benefits related to the restoration of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta;
- Accelerated development of a secure and reliable alternative conveyance system in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta that will significantly improve water supply reliability and water quality;
- Continued implementation of the 2009 Delta Water Management Legislative Package to help ensure critical milestones are met in a timely manner;
- State and federal cooperation, funding, and policy adoption to ensure balanced implementation of the BDCP and the Delta Plan to achieve the co-equal goals of Delta ecosystem restoration and improved water supply reliability;
- Continued implementation of, and adherence by, all involved parties to the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA);
- Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) programs and projects that increase storage in Lake Mead;
- Development of cost-effective surface and groundwater storage to improve the reliability of water supplies throughout California;
- Implementation of the recommendations of the State Recycled Water Task Force;

- Simplification of the process of water transfers between all areas of the state and, where possible, pre-approval of these transfers;
- Drinking water regulatory standards that are based on science and can demonstrate cost effectiveness;
- Programs and projects that effect sustainable salt management;
- Reforms to CEQA that improve the efficiency of the environmental permitting process without compromising existing and relevant environmental protections, and also minimize litigation and related delays;
- Consolidation of California codes that codify recycled water as a resource, not a waste; and
- Expedited implementation of Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.

REGIONAL

- Regulatory frameworks that promote efficient maintenance and management of water resources and infrastructure;
- Efforts to secure a combination of federal, state, regional and local funding for the development of local and regional projects that will improve water reliability through transfers, desalination, water use efficiency, storage, and water recycling;
- Cost-effective expansion of water recycling with a focus on newly developing areas;
- Development of regulatory standards that allow for cost-effective water recycling, including potable reuse;
- Water use efficiency projects and programs, as well as voluntary conservation, to reduce urban runoff and over-watering;
- Development of cost-effective and sustainable desalination of ocean water and groundwater, including reasonable approaches to the regulation of brine disposal; and
- Projects that make optimum use of groundwater resources.

LOCAL

- Projects and programs that protect the quality, reliability, and sustainability of the Orange County Groundwater Basin, including the current and future expansion of the Groundwater Replenishment System;
- Expedited acquisition of necessary property behind Prado Dam by Orange County Flood Control to maximize usable water storage;
- Completion of the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project and the funding and timely distribution of the accumulated state subventions to reimburse Orange County;
- Completion of the Santa Ana River Interceptor (SARI) wastewater line relocation project to ensure the long-term integrity of the pipeline, protect public health, and safeguard the environment;
- Development of additional stormwater capture at Prado Dam;
- Continued North-South County collaboration to enhance water supply and system reliability as well as provide South County with a more reliable emergency water supply; and
- Expansion of local water storage, including recycled water storage through the development of the Syphon Reservoir Recycled Water Storage Project and other projects.

BACKGROUND

As a nation and as a dynamic urban county, adequate and appropriate action must be taken to protect public health, water resources, and environmental resources from the harmful effects of point source and non-point source water pollution. While public and private entities have made great strides to significantly reduce the impact of pollutants on these important resources by building facilities to abate these pollutants and source control practices and other methods, some problems persist and must be addressed. Business and environmental interests often coincide on this broad issue when accurate and timely information is shared and appropriate actions are taken by all responsible parties. We see a trend toward increasing cooperation in Orange County, and we applaud it.

Ocean water quality is vitally important to Orange County business and quality of life. At the same time, the measures available to address near shore pollution are rapidly developing and the alternatives are sometimes very expensive. The protection of beach water quality must therefore be addressed as a collaborative process with the best knowledge from all stakeholders and disciplines brought to bear to prioritize problems and implement rational solutions.

OCBC strongly supports improvement of ocean water quality through widespread public education and the adoption of cost-effective public policies, practices, and facilities that are consistently based upon sound research. Society is better served by a reasonable regulatory process that functions cooperatively, uses scientifically-based facts, and establishes water quality objectives that consider the cost of attaining water quality standards.

Federal, state, and local government agencies must address urban runoff issues pragmatically and sequentially. Various methods suggested by private and public entities to address urban runoff must be fairly considered on a case-by-case basis and the permitting authorities must evaluate the site-specific costs, constraints, and other practical matters. Flexibility and cost-effectiveness are principles that all parties must embrace as the collective understanding of this issue evolves. Watershed approaches will lead to more meaningful improvements.

“OCBC strongly supports improvement of ocean water quality through **widespread public education** and the adoption of **cost-effective public policies**, practices, and facilities that are consistently **based upon sound research.**”

OCBC will play an active role in improving ocean water quality and support the approaches listed below for addressing this important issue:

1. Orange County's Storm Water Management Program: This multi-initiative program of Orange County, its 34 cities, and the Flood Control District engages all stakeholders in finding and maintaining cost-effective and practical methods for reducing pollutants that would otherwise enter the storm water system and impact water quality. Public education and best management practices are important parts of this program and should remain fully funded and supported by the Orange County Board of Supervisors and city councils.

2. Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) Education "Tool Kit": Developed by OCSD and sponsored by the Orange County Chapter of the California Restaurant Association, the tool kit educates business, residents, and students about how to keep the waterways clean.

3. Urban Runoff Treatment: Urban runoff diversion and treatment systems constructed, operated, and maintained by public entities should remain a key component to an effective and region-wide approach to the sustainable, long-term management of water quality.

4. Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Program: Urban runoff diversion and treatment systems constructed, operated, and maintained by public entities should remain a key component to an effective and region-wide approach to the sustainable, long-term management of water quality.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

California must protect, enhance, and sustain ocean water quality using comprehensive, watershed- and science-based approaches that reduce contaminants from point and non-point sources in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. Stormwater management should integrate public safety and pollution control in a cost-effective manner.

POSITIONS

In addition to the positions set forth in the Environmental Issues policy statement on page 23, Orange County business supports:

- Compliance with laws and regulations aimed at protecting our coastline and ocean resources from inadequately treated wastewater and sanitary sewer overflows;
- Water quality management programs to reduce, where practical, non-point source pollution as well as improve ocean water quality;
- Science-based programs and projects to manage urban runoff and storm water in a cost-effective and sustainable manner;
- Regulatory reforms that promote efficient maintenance and management of water resources and infrastructure;
- Improvements in water quality testing methodologies to more quickly and accurately determine levels of pathogens, sources of contamination, and health risk, which result in the timely notification of the public;

- Dry weather diversions into the sanitary system for treatment and disposal or reclamation, but only when there is sufficient capacity to do so and other practices of the sanitary sewage system are not negatively impacted;
- Education of business, residents, and visitors regarding pollution prevention practices that reduce urban runoff and of the importance of water quality to the economy and quality of life in Orange County;
- Updates to the Basin Plans to incorporate current scientific understanding and establish appropriate standards that adequately protect water quality in a practical and cost-effective manner;
- Employing risk-based approaches, “use attainability analyses,” and other valid scientifically-based techniques to evaluate bodies of water and their designated uses when setting water quality standards, adopting Total Maximum Daily Loads, and issuing permits that require action by public and private entities;
- The use of technology, best available practices, and “natural treatment” systems to adequately protect public health and the environment from harmful pollutants contained in urban runoff and agricultural runoff with a preference for natural treatment system solutions;
- Realignment of the Region 8 and Region 9 jurisdictional boundaries of the Regional Water Quality Control Boards to place southern Orange County under the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board;
- California policy should be amended to treat stormwater and dry weather runoff as a resource wherein flood protection, water quality, and water supply improvements are complementary goals;
- Regional, watershed/subwatershed-specific stormwater and dry weather runoff planning efforts that engage key stakeholders in the planning process and allow for consideration of local factors that may impact the appropriateness of stormwater and dry weather runoff capture, infiltration and use within a region should be encouraged; and
- Stormwater and dry weather runoff management and capture planning should be done regionally and not on a parcel-by-parcel basis. Regional boards should move away from parcel-by-parcel water quality requirements and focus on regional compliance in order to encourage large-scale regional stormwater and dry weather runoff capture, retention, diversion, use and recharge.





WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

BACKGROUND

Orange County is faced with the challenge of developing a workforce capable of sustaining and enhancing its economic growth. While the Common Core State Standards, Local Control Funding Formula, and Transitional Kindergarten are important and innovative steps in the right direction, trends continue to suggest that the growing skills gap with some students is intensifying. While Orange County's public schools perform significantly better than state and national indicators, educational improvements are required to develop a knowledgeable, high-performing workforce for competitive advantage. Specifically, such improvements include:

- Substantial expansion and upgrades of school facilities including greater use of technology in the classroom;
- Internships, job shadowing, and externships to provide a global workforce perspective;
- Increased teacher development in enriched curriculum, particularly in the STEAM Disciplines (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics); and
- Developing innovative strategies and methods to better teach English-language learners and close the Achievement Gap.

OCBC research indicates the skills gap is growing for Orange County's growing technology clusters. These gaps occur at all levels but are especially pronounced for college graduates and post-graduates. Systematic research at the regional level is required to both quantify these gaps and craft effective responses. However, significant problems already identified are:

- A worker shortage in occupational categories demanding high-technology skills;
- A lack of STEAM skills in professional and technician level occupations; and
- An absence of basic education among 16 percent of Orange County's workers over the age of 25-years old who lack a high school diploma.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Orange County needs a highly-qualified and well-educated workforce prepared for productive citizenship in a knowledge-based economy, supporting the needs of Orange County's employers in today's workplace.

“OCBC research indicates the **skills gap is growing** for Orange County's growing **technology clusters.**”

Orange County business supports:

- Monitoring the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and Local Control Funding Formula to ensure students are college and career ready;
- Increased access to early childhood education and Transitional Kindergarten to assist in lowering the Achievement Gap;
- Public-Private-Partnerships with business to support education programs through non-profits to fill the workforce gaps;
- Ensuring the arts is part of an overall wide-ranging K-12 curriculum to increase communication and critical thinking skills and develop problem solving skills;
- Annual assessments of Orange County's workforce development needs;
- Assisting educational providers and Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to strategically align available funding with research outcomes and projections that respond to both the current and future employment and training needs of businesses;
- Collaboration between universities, community colleges, and K-12 schools, occupational training programs, businesses, workforce investment boards, and others involved in workforce preparedness, to develop programs that respond to employer and labor market needs and to ease matriculation between educational institutions;
- Sustainable funding for career technical education as well as adult retraining to respond to changes in the economic and workplace environments;
- Expanded English-language programs for employees and job-seekers; universal access to workforce training and job assistance programs for limited English-speaking job-seekers;
- Internships, field studies, service learning, and workplace-centered opportunities for students;
- Workplace externships for teachers to refresh skills in their discipline;
- Increased enrollment growth funding for public higher education coupled with a predictable, stable fee policy for higher education students;
- Locally-determined priorities and implementation strategies for attaining and exceeding statewide academic standards;
- Highly trained and appropriately compensated teachers and administrators;
- Streamlining teacher and administrator certification, including alternative avenues to expand the pool of high-quality teachers and administrators; and
- State school bonds to match local dollars for school facilities.
- Highly trained and appropriately compensated teachers and administrators;
- Streamlining teacher and administrator certification, including alternative avenues to expand the pool of high-quality teachers and administrators; and
- State school bonds to match local dollars for school facilities.



ELECTED OFFICIALS



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Comments: 202.456.1111

Fax: 202.456.2461

E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

Website: whitehouse.gov



VICE PRESIDENT JOSEPH BIDEN, JR.

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Comments: 202.456.1111

Fax: 202.456.2461

E-mail: vice_president@whitehouse.gov

Website: whitehouse.gov

THE CABINET

Department of Agriculture
SECRETARY THOMAS J. VILSACK
www.usda.gov

Department of Commerce
SECRETARY PENNY PRITZKER
www.commerce.gov

Department of Defense
SECRETARY CHUCK HAGEL
www.defense.gov

Department of Education
SECRETARY ARNE DUNCAN
www.ed.gov

Department of Energy
SECRETARY DR. ERNEST MONIZ
www.energy.gov

Department of Health and Human Services
SECRETARY SYLVIA MATHEWS BURWELL
www.hhs.gov

Department of Homeland Security
SECRETARY JEH JOHNSON
www.dhs.gov

Department of Housing and Urban Development
SECRETARY JULIAN CASTRO
www.hud.gov

Department of the Interior
SECRETARY SALLY JEWELL
www.doi.gov

Department of Justice
ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER JR.
www.usdoj.gov

Department of Labor
SECRETARY THOMAS E. PEREZ
www.dol.gov

Department of State
SECRETARY JOHN KERRY
www.state.gov

Department of Transportation
SECRETARY ANTHONY FOXX
www.dot.gov

Department of Treasury
SECRETARY JACK LEW
www.treasury.gov

Department of Veteran Affairs
SECRETARY ROBERT McDONALD
www.va.gov

Cabinet Rank Member
Environmental Protection Agency
ADMINISTRATOR GINA MCCARTHY
www.epa.gov

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CALIFORNIA'S UNITED STATES SENATORS



SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN

331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: 202.224.3841 | **Fax:** 202.228.3954

Website: feinstein.senate.gov



SENATOR BARBARA BOXER

112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: 202.224.3553 | **Fax:** 202.224.0454

Website: boxer.senate.gov

ORANGE COUNTY CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION



REPRESENTATIVE LINDA SÁNCHEZ (D-38)

2329 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.6676 | **Fax:** 202.226.1012

Website: lindasanchez.house.gov



REPRESENTATIVE ED ROYCE (R-39)

2310 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.4111 | **Fax:** 202.225.0335

Website: royce.house.gov



REPRESENTATIVE MIMI WALTERS (R-45)

236 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.5611 | **Fax:** 202.225.9177

Website: campbell.house.gov



REPRESENTATIVE LORETTA SÁNCHEZ (D-46)

1211 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.2965 | **Fax:** 202.225.5859

Website: lorettasanchez.house.gov

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

ORANGE COUNTY CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION



REPRESENTATIVE ALAN LOWENTHAL (D-47)

108 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.7924 | **Fax:** 202.225.7926

Website: lowenthal.house.gov



REPRESENTATIVE DANA ROHRABACHER (R-48)

2300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.2415 | **Fax:** 202.225.0145

Website: rohrabacher.house.gov



REPRESENTATIVE DARRELL ISSA (R-49)

2269 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202.225.3906 | **Fax:** 202.225.3303

Website: issa.house.gov

CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL ROSTER - 113TH CONGRESS

(All addresses are: Office Address _____ Washington, D.C. 20515)

District	Name	Party	Office Address	Phone 202-	Fax 202-
1	Doug LaMalfa	R	322 Cannon	225-3076	226-0852
2	Jared Huffman	D	1630 Longworth	225-5161	
3	John Garamendi	D	2438 Rayburn	225-1880	225-5914
4	Tom McClintock	R	2331 Rayburn	225-2511	225-5444
5	Mike Thompson	D	231 Cannon	225-3311	225-4335
6	Doris Matsui	D	2311 Rayburn	225-7163	225-0566
7	Ami Bera	D	1535 Longworth	225-5716	226-1289
8	Paul Cook	R	1222 Longworth	225-5861	
9	Jerry McNerney	D	2265 Longworth	225-1947	225-4060
10	Jeff Denham	R	1730 Longworth	225-4540	225-3402
11	Mark DeSaulnier	D	327 Cannon	225-2095	225-5609
12	Nancy Pelosi	D	233 Cannon	225-4965	225-8259
13	Barbara Lee	D	2267 Rayburn	225-2661	225-9817
14	Jackie Speier	D	2465 Rayburn	225-3531	226-4183
15	Eric Swalwell	D	129 Cannon	225-5065	226-3805
16	Jim Costa	D	1314 Longworth	225-3341	
17	Mike Honda	D	1713 Longworth	225-2631	225-2699
18	Anna Eshoo	D	241 Cannon	225-8104	225-8104
19	Zoe Lofgren	D	1401 Longworth	225-3072	
20	Sam Farr	D	1126 Longworth	225-2861	225-6791
21	David Valadao	R	1004 Longworth	225-4695	225-3196
22	Devin Nunes	R	1013 Longworth	225-2523	225-3404
23	Kevin McCarthy	R	2421 Rayburn	225-2915	225-2908
24	Lois Capps	D	2231 Rayburn	225-3601	225-5632
25	Steve Knight	R	1023 Longworth	225-1956	226-0683
26	Julia Brownley	D	1019 Longworth	225-5811	225-1100
27	Judy Chu	D	2423 Rayburn	225-5464	225-5467
28	Adam Schiff	D	2411 Rayburn	225-4176	225-5828
29	Tony Cardenas	D	1510 Longworth	225-6131	225-0819
30	Brad Sherman	D	2242 Rayburn	225-5911	225-5879
31	Pete Aguilar	D	1223 Longworth	225-3201	226-6962
32	Grace Napolitano	D	1610 Longworth	225-5256	225-0027
33	Ted Lieu	D	415 Cannon	225-3976	225-4099
34	Xavier Becerra	D	1226 Longworth	225-6235	225-2202
35	Norma Torres	D	516 Cannon	225-6161	226-2646
36	Raul Ruiz	D	1319 Longworth	225-5330	
37	Karen Bass	D	408 Cannon	225-7084	225-2422
38	Linda Sanchez	D	2329 Rayburn	225-6676	226-1012
39	Ed Royce	R	2310 Rayburn	225-4111	226-0335
40	Lucille Roybal-Allard	D	2330 Rayburn	225-1766	226-0350
41	Mark Takano	D	1507 Longworth	225-2305	
42	Ken Calvert	R	2205 Rayburn	225-1986	225-2004
43	Maxine Waters	D	2221 Rayburn	225-2201	225-7854
44	Janice Hahn	D	404 Cannon	225-8220	226-7290
45	Mimi Walters	R	236 Cannon	225-5611	225-9177
46	Loretta Sanchez	D	1211 Longworth	225-2965	225-5859
47	Alan Lowenthal	D	108 Cannon	225-7924	225-7926
48	Dana Rohrabacher	R	2300 Rayburn	225-2415	225-0145
49	Darrell Issa	R	2269 Rayburn	225-3906	225-3303
50	Duncan Hunter	R	2429 Rayburn	225-5672	225-0235
51	Juan Vargas	D	1605 Longworth	225-8045	225-9073
52	Scott Peters	D	1122 Longworth	225-0508	
53	Susan Davis	D	1214 Longworth	225-2040	225-2948

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
THE HONORABLE JERRY BROWN (D)
State Capitol, Suite 1173, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916.445.2841 | **Fax:** 916.558.3160
Website: gov.ca.gov



SENATE PRESIDENT, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
THE HONORABLE GAVIN NEWSOM (D)
State Capitol, Suite 1114, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916.445.8994
Website: ltg.ca.gov



SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEM
THE HONORABLE KEVIN DE LEON (D)
State Capitol, Room 205, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916.651.4024 | **Fax:** 916.327.8817
Website: sd06.senate.ca.gov



SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY
THE HONORABLE TONI ATKINS (D)
State Capitol, Room 219, Sacramento, CA 94249
Phone: 916.319.2078 | **Fax:** 916.319.2178
Website: asmdc.org/speaker



SENATE MINORITY LEADER
THE HONORABLE BOB HUFF (R)
State Capitol, Room 305, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916.651.4029 | **Fax:** 916.324.0922
Website: cssrc.us/web/29



ASSEMBLY MINORITY LEADER
THE HONORABLE KRISTEN OLSEN (R)
State Capitol, Room 3104, Sacramento, CA 94249
Phone: 916.319.2012 | **Fax:** 916.319.2112
Website: ad12.assemblygop.com

ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION: SENATE



THE HONORABLE BOB HUFF (R-29)

State Capitol, Room 305, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916.651.4029 | **Fax:** 916.651.

Email: senator.huff@sen.ca.gov | **Website:** huff.cssrc.us

District Office: 1800 Lambert Road, Suite 150, Brea, CA.

District Office Phone: 714.671.9474 | **District Office Fax:** 714.671.9750



THE HONORABLE TONY MENDOZA (D-32)

State Capitol, Room 5061, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916.651.4032 | **Fax:** 916.651.4932

Email: senator.mendoza@sen.ca.gov **Website:** sd32.senate.ca.gov

District Office: 400 N. Montebello Blvd., Suite 100, Montebello, CA.

District Office Phone: 323.890.2790 | **District Office Fax:** 323.890.2795



THE HONORABLE JANET NGUYEN (R-34)

State Capitol, Room 3048, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916.651.4034 | **Fax:** 916.651.4934

Email: senator.nguyen@sen.ca.gov | **Website:** district34.cssrc.us

District Office: 2323 N. Broadway, Suite 245, Santa Ana, CA, 92706

District Office Phone: 714.558.4400



THE HONORABLE PAT BATES (R-36)

State Capitol, Room 4048, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916.651.4036 | **Fax:** 916.651.4936

Email: senator.bates@sen.ca.gov | **Website:** district36.cssrc.us

District Office: 27126A Paseo Espada, Suite 1621,

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

District Office Phone: 949.489.9838

District 36
VACANT

State Capitol, Room 4082, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916.651.4037 | **Fax:** 916.445.9754

District Office: 30 Executive Park, Suite 250, Irvine, CA. 92614

District Office Phone: 949.223.5037

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE ROSTER

(All addresses are: State Capitol, Room _____ Sacramento, CA 95814)

District	Name	Party	Capitol Phone 916-	Fax 916-	Room
SD 1	Ted Gaines	R	651-4001	651-4901	3070
SD 2	Mike McGuire	D	651-4002	651-4902	5064
SD 3	Lois Wolk	D	651-4003	651-4903	5114
SD 4	Jim Nielsen	R	651-4004	651-4904	2068
SD 5	Cathleen Galgiani	D	651-4005	651-4905	2059
SD 6	Richard Pan	D	651-4006	651-4906	4070
SD 7	VACANT				
SD 8	Tom Berryhill	R	651-4008	651-4908	3076
SD 9	Loni Hancock	D	651-4009	651-4900	2082
SD 10	Bob Wieckowski	D	651-4010	651-4910	3086
SD 11	Mark Leno	D	651-4011	651-4911	5100
SD 12	Anthony Cannella	R	651-4012	651-4912	5082
SD 13	Jerry Hill	D	651-4013	651-4913	5035
SD 14	Andy Vidak	R	651-4014	651-4914	3082
SD 15	Jim Beall	D	651-4015	651-4915	5066
SD 16	Jean Fuller	R	651-4016	651-4916	3063
SD 17	Bill Monning	D	651-4017	651-4917	313
SD 18	Robert Hertzberg	D	651-4018	651-4918	4038
SD 19	Hannah-Beth Jackson	D	651-4019	651-4919	2032
SD 20	Connie Leyva	D	651-4020	651-4920	4061
SD 21	VACANT				
SD 22	Ed Hernandez	D	651-4022	651-4922	2080
SD 23	Mike Morrell	R	651-4023	651-4923	3056
SD 24	Kevin de Leon	D	651-4024	651-4924	205
SD 25	Carol Liu	D	651-4025	651-4925	5097
SD 26	Benjamin Allen	D	651-4026	651-4926	2054
SD 27	Fran Pavley	D	651-4027	651-4927	5108
SD 28	Jeff Stone	R	651-4028	651-4928	4062
SD 29	Bob Huff	R	651-4029	651-4929	305
SD 30	Holly Mitchell	D	651-4030	651-4930	5080
SD 31	Richard Roth	D	651-4031	651-4931	4034
SD 32	Tony Mendoza	D	651-4032	651-4932	5061
SD 33	Ricardo Lara	D	651-4033	651-4933	5050
SD 34	Janet Nguyen	R	651-4034	651-4934	3048
SD 35	Isadore Hall, III	D	651-4035	651-4935	4085
SD 36	Pat Bates	R	651-4036	651-4936	4048
SD 37	VACANT				
SD 38	Joel Anderson	R	651-4038	651-4938	5052
SD 39	Marty Block	D	651-4039	651-4939	4072
SD 40	Ben Huesso	D	651-4040	651-4940	4035

ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION: ASSEMBLY



THE HONORABLE LING LING CHANG (R-55)

Capitol Office, Room 3149, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2055 | **Fax:** 916.319.2155

Email: assemblymember.chang@assembly.ca.gov

Website: add55.assemblygop.com

District Office: 13920 City Center Drive, Suite #260, Chino Hills, CA 91709

District Office Phone: 909.627.7021 | **District Office Fax:** 909.627.1841



THE HONORABLE YOUNG O. KIM (R-65)

Capitol Office, Room 4177, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2065 | **Fax:** 916.319.2165

Email: assemblymember.kim@assembly.ca.gov

Website: ad65.asmrc.org

District Office: 1400 North Harbor Blvd., Suite 601, Fullerton, CA 92835

District Office Phone: 714.526.7272 | **District Office Fax:** 714.526.7278



THE HONORABLE DONALD WAGNER (R-68)

Capitol Office, Room 3098, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2068 | **Fax:** 916.319.2168

Email: assemblymember.wagner@assembly.ca.gov

Website: ad68.assemblygop.com

District Office: 1781 E. 17th St., Suite 150, Tustin, CA 92780

District Office Phone: 714.665.6868 | **District Office Fax:** 714.665.6867



THE HONORABLE TOM DALY (D-69)

Capitol Office, Room 3126, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2069 | **Fax:** 916.319.2169

Email: assemblymember.daly@assembly.ca.gov

Website: asmdc.org/members/a69

District Office: 2400 E. Katella Ave., Suite 640, Anaheim, CA 92806

District Office Phone: 714.939.8469 | **District Office Fax:** 714.939.8986

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION: ASSEMBLY



THE HONORABLE TRAVIS ALLEN (R-72)

Capitol Office, Room 4015, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2072 | **Fax:** 916.319.2172

Email: assemblymember.allen@assembly.ca.gov

Website: ad72.assemblygop.com

District Office: 17011 Beach Blvd., Suite 1120

District Office Phone: 714.843.4966 | **District Office Fax:** 714.843.6375



THE HONORABLE WILLIAM BROUGH (R-73)

Capitol Office, Room 2174, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2073 | **Fax:** 916.319.2173

Email: assemblymember.harkey@assembly.ca.gov

Website: ad73.asmrc.org

District Office: 29122 Rancho Viejo Road, Ste. 111, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

District Office Phone: 949.347.7301 | **District Office Fax:** 949.347.7302



THE HONORABLE MATTHEW HARPER (R-74)

Capitol Office, Room 2002, Sacramento, CA 94249

Phone: 916.319.2074 | **Fax:** 916.319.2174

Email: assemblymember.harper@assembly.ca.gov

Website: ad74.assemblygop.com

District Office: 1503 South Coast Drive, Suite 205, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

District Office Phone: 714.668.2100 | **District Office Fax:** 714.668.2104

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY ROSTER

(All addresses are: State Capitol, Room _____ Sacramento, CA 95814)

District	Name	Party	Capitol Phone 916-	Capitol Fax 916-	Room
AD 1	Brian Dahle	R	319-2001	319-2101	2158
AD 2	Jim Wood	D	319-2002	319-2102	5164
AD 3	James Gallagher	R	319-2003	319-2103	5128
AD 4	Bill Dodd	D	319-2004	319-2104	2137
AD 5	Franklin Bigelow	R	319-2005	319-2105	6027
AD 6	Beth Gaines	R	319-2006	319-2106	2130
AD 7	Kevin McCarty	D	319-2007	319-2107	2160
AD 8	Ken Cooley	D	319-2008	319-2108	3146
AD 9	Jim Cooper	D	319-2009	319-2109	5158
AD 10	Marc Levine	D	319-2010	319-2110	2141
AD 11	Jim Frazier	D	319-2011	319-2111	3091
AD 12	Kristin Olsen	R	319-2012	319-2112	3104
AD 13	Susan Talamantes Eggman	D	319-2013	319-2113	3173
AD 14	Susan Bonilla	D	319-2014	319-2114	4140
AD 15	Tony Thurmond	D	319-2015	319-2115	5150
AD 16	Catharine Baker	D	319-2016	319-2116	4153
AD 17	David Chiu	D	319-2017	319-2117	2196
AD 18	Rob Bonta	D	319-2018	319-2118	6005
AD 19	Philip Ting	D	319-2019	319-2119	3123
AD 20	Bill Quirk	D	319-2020	319-2120	2163
AD 21	Adam Gray	D	319-2021	319-2121	4117
AD 22	Kevin Mullin	D	319-2022	319-2022	3160
AD 23	Jim Patterson	R	319-2023	319-2123	3132
AD 24	Richard Gordon	D	319-2024	319-2124	3013
AD 25	Kansen Chu	D	319-2025	319-2125	5175
AD 26	Devon Mathis	R	319-2026	319-2126	5126
AD 27	Nora Campos	D	319-2027	319-2127	4016
AD 28	Evan Low	D	319-2028	319-2128	2175
AD 29	Mark Stone	D	319-2029	319-2129	5155
AD 30	Luis Alejo	D	319-2030	319-2130	stet
AD 31	Henry Perea	D	319-2031	319-2131	3120
AD 32	Rudy Salas, Jr.	D	319-2032	319-2132	2188
AD 33	Jay Obernolte	R	319-2033	319-2133	4116
AD 34	Shannon Grove	R	319-2034	319-2134	4208
AD 35	Katcho Achadjian	R	319-2035	319-2135	4098
AD 36	Tom Lackey	R	319-2036	319-2136	4009
AD 37	Das Williams	D	319-2037	319-2137	4005
AD 38	Scott Wilk	R	319-2038	319-2138	4158
AD 39	Patty Lopez	D	319-2039	319-2139	5160
AD 40	marc Steinorth	R	319-2040	319-2140	2111
AD 41	Chris Holden	D	319-2041	319-2141	319
AD 42	Chad Mayes	R	319-2042	319-2142	4144
AD 43	Mike Gatto	D	319-2043	319-2143	3152
AD 44	Jacqui Irwin	D	319-2044	319-2144	6011
AD 45	Matthew Dababneh	D	319-2045	319-2145	4112
AD 46	Adrin Nazarian	D	319-2046	319-2146	4146
AD 47	Cheryl Brown	D	319-2047	319-2147	2136
AD 48	Roger Hernández	D	319-2048	319-2148	5016
AD 49	Ed Chau	D	319-2049	319-2149	2179
AD 50	Richard Bloom	D	319-2050	319-2150	2003
AD 51	Jimmy Gomez	D	319-2051	319-2151	2114

Continued on next page

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY ROSTER

(All addresses are: State Capitol, Room _____, Sacramento, CA 95814)

District	Name	Party	Capitol Phone 916-	Capitol Fax 916-	Room
AD 52	Freddi Rodriguez	D	319-2052	319-2152	6025
AD 53	Miguel Santiago	D	319-2053	319-2153	5119
AD 54	Sebastian Ridley-Thomas	D	319-2054	319-2154	2176
AD 55	Ling Ling Chang	R	319-2055	319-2155	3149
AD 56	Eduardo Garcia	D	319-2056	319-2156	4162
AD 57	Ian Calderon	D	319-2057	319-2157	2148
AD 58	Cristina Garcia	D	319-2058	319-2158	2013
AD 59	Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Sr.	D	319-2059	319-2159	4126
AD 60	Eric Linder	R	319-2060	319-2160	2016
AD 61	Jose Medina	D	319-2061	319-2161	5135
AD 62	Autumn Burke	D	319-2062	319-2162	5144
AD 63	Anthony Rendon	D	319-2063	319-2163	5136
AD 64	Mike Gipson	D	319-2064	319-2164	4164
AD 65	Young Kim	R	319-2065	319-2165	4177
AD 66	David Hadley	R	319-2066	319-2166	4102
AD 67	Melissa Melendez	R	319-2067	319-2167	6031
AD 68	Donald Wagner	R	319-2068	319-2168	3098
AD 69	Tom Daly	D	319-2069	319-2169	3126
AD 70	Patrick O'Donnell	D	319-2070	319-2171	4166
AD 71	Brian Jones	R	319-2071	319-2171	3141
AD 72	Travis Allen	R	319-2072	319-2172	4015
AD 73	William Brough	R	319-2073	319-2173	2174
AD 74	Matthew Harper	R	319-2074	319-2174	2002
AD 75	Marie Waldron	R	319-2075	319-2175	4130
AD 76	Rocky Chávez	R	319-2076	319-2176	2170
AD 77	Brian Maienschein	R	319-2077	319-2177	4139
AD 78	Toni Atkins	D	319-2078	319-2178	219
AD 79	Shirley Weber	D	319-2079	319-2179	6026
AD 80	Loreno Gonzalez	D	319-2080	319-2180	6012

COUNTY OF ORANGE

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



District 1
VACANT

1ST DISTRICT - VACANT

333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701

Phone: 714.834.3110 | **Fax:** 714.834.5754

Cities: Fountain Valley (portions of), Santa Ana, Westminster, Garden Grove



SUPERVISOR MICHELE STEEL - 2ND DISTRICT

10 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Phone: 714.834.3220 | **Fax:** 714.834.6109

Email: michelle.steel@ocgov.com

Cities: Buena Park (portions of), Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley (portions of), Huntington Beach, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Seal Beach, Stanton



SUPERVISOR TODD SPITZER - 3RD DISTRICT

333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701

Phone: 714.834.3330 | **Fax:** 714.834.2786

Email: todd.spitzer@ocgov.com

Cities: Anaheim (portions of), Irvine (portions of), Orange, Tustin, Villa Park, Yorba Linda



SUPERVISOR SHAWN NELSON - 4TH DISTRICT

333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701

Phone: 714.834.3440 | **Fax:** 714.834.2045

Email: audra.fischel@ocgov.com

Cities: Anaheim (portions of), Brea, Buena Park (portions of), Fullerton, La Habra, Placentia



SUPERVISOR LISA BARTLETT - 5TH DISTRICT

333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701

Phone: 714.834.3550 | **Fax:** 714.834.2670

Email: lisa.bartlett@ocgov.com

Cities: Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Irvine (portions of), Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano

COUNTY OF ORANGE

ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE HONORABLE AL MIJARES, PH.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS**

200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Phone: 714.966.4000 | **Fax:** 714.662.3570

Email: amijares@ocde.us | **Website:** ocde.us

The Orange County Department of Education oversees Orange County's 28 school districts:

UNIFIED SCHOOLS DISTRICTS:

Brea-Olinda Unified School District
Capistrano Unified School District
Garden Grove Unified School District
Irvine Unified School District
Laguna Beach Unified School District
Los Alamitos Unified School District
Newport-Mesa Unified School District
Orange Unified School District
Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District
Saddleback Valley Unified School District
Santa Ana Unified School District
Tustin Unified School District

UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Anaheim Union High School District
Fullerton Joint Union High School District
Huntington Beach Union High School District

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Anaheim City School District
Buena Park School District
Centralia School District
Cypress School District
Fountain Valley School District
Fullerton School District
Huntington Beach City School District
La Habra City School District
Lowell Joint School District
Magnolia School District
Ocean View School District
Savanna School District
Westminster School District



ADVOCACY TOOLS



GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Legislative Information (federal) / U.S. Library of Congress: thomas.loc.gov
Federal legislation, Washington, D.C. tour opportunities, jobs, and fellowships

President: whitehouse.gov

United States Senate: senate.gov
Senate members/directory, committees

United States House of Representatives: house.gov
House members/directory, committees

U.S. Government Official Web Portal: usa.gov

The California Institute for Federal Policy Research: calinst.org
Information about federal policy decisions, with specific application to California

STATE GOVERNMENT

Legislative Information (state): leginfo.ca.gov or www.legislature.ca.gov
Bill information and hearing schedules, California laws, website resources on legislative issues

Governor: governor.ca.gov

California State Senate: senate.ca.gov
Senators, Senate committees, legislation

California State Assembly: assembly.ca.gov
Assembly Members, Assembly committees, legislation

State of California: ca.gov
See ca.gov/Apps/Agencies.aspx for the online directory to state agencies.
See calgold.ca.gov for state and local government permits required to do business.

Secretary of State: sos.ca.gov
Election updates, lobbyist registration, state archives

Legislative Analyst: lao.ca.gov
Analyses of state budget issues, legislative proposals, and state ballot initiatives

Attorney General (for Statewide Ballot Initiative Text): caag.state.ca.us/initiatives/activeindex.htm
Text of statewide ballot initiatives under circulation or qualified

News Summaries/State Updates: aroundthecapitol.com or rtumble.com

California Performance Review: cpr.ca.gov
Regulatory reform and state government reorganization proposals



ORANGE COUNTY
BUSINESS COUNCIL

2 PARK PLAZA, SUITE 100 | IRVINE, CA 92614 | 949.476.2242 | FAX: 949.476.9240 | WWW.OCBC.ORG

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY

