

What's New in Government Affairs  
May 22, 2009: **Memorial Day Edition!**  
[www.SouthBayAOR.com](http://www.SouthBayAOR.com)



## LOCAL

**HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!** While enjoying the unofficial start of summer this weekend, take a moment to remember the men and women serving our country around the world. Join State Senator Jenny Oropeza at a Memorial Day Tribute to Fallen Soldiers at the James R. Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive, Torrance, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 23.

### **SUCCESS!**

**LOS ANGELES:** Three REALTOR® associations successfully stopped a REALTOR®-hostile point-of-sale ("POS") sidewalk repair ordinance in the City of Los Angeles (including San Pedro, Wilmington and Harbor City). On May 20, the City Council's Public Works Committee voted to defer POS and instructed city staff to continue working with the REALTOR® community. Our goal is to help develop alternative repair solutions that are more effective and that do not adversely impact the escrow and home sale process.

## STATE

**NOW WHAT?** On May 19, state voters rejected all but one of the ballot measures intended to help balance the state budget. The Governor and state legislature are now wrangling over a combination of cuts to services and additional deficit borrowing.

**ELECTION VICTORY:** SBAOR congratulates State Senator-elect Curren Price (D-26), supported by C.A.R., who handily won the unexpired senate term of Mark Ridley-Thomas. Ridley-Thomas resigned this seat after being elected last November to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Watch this space for information about the candidates running to fill his current seat in the 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District, which includes Gardena, Lawndale, Hawthorne and Inglewood.

## FEDERAL

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM NAR'S REAL ESTATE SUMMIT:** On May 12, NAR's Real Estate Summit brought together real estate professionals in the residential and commercial sectors, opinion leaders, economists, academic leaders, members of the media, and current and former government officials to engage REALTORS® in a comprehensive conversation about how to revitalize, regenerate and renew real estate markets across the nation. Take a minute to see the valuable information about our industry and the whether the economy can bounce back at [www.REALTOR.org/government-affairs](http://www.REALTOR.org/government-affairs).

At the NAR website, see video of keynote speakers including Former Representative **Harold Ford, Jr.** (D-Tenn.); political commentator **Patrick Buchanan**; **Dr. Robert Reich**, former U.S. Secretary of Labor; **Shaun Donovan**, U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; **Dr. Alan Greenspan**, Former Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board; and **Sheila Bair**, Chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

### Why Government Affairs?

Every city makes decisions on taxes, point-of-sale, signs, rent control, property rights, and more. This impacts your client's ability to buy, sell, or develop their properties and your ability to do business. The South Bay Association of REALTORS® Government Affairs Program protects and advocates for you. For more information, call SBAOR Government Affairs at (310)326-3010 ext. 715