

What's New in Government Affairs

Back To School Edition!

October 2, 2009

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LOCAL

LOCAL ELECTIONS IN THE SOUTH BAY: City Councils in Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, and Lomita will have new members after local elections on November 3. Are you registered to vote? **The last day to register for the November 3 election is October 19.** Go to LAVOTE.net for more information.

HERMOSA BEACH CANDIDATES FORUM, OCT 15: Come meet the candidates running for election to Hermosa Beach City Council. The Forum is sponsored by *Leadership Hermosa Beach* and will take place on Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the Hermosa Beach Council Chamber, 1315 Valley Drive in Hermosa Beach. For more information, call Sandi Pfister at (310)600-7169.

STATE

STATE COMMISSION RELEASES TAX REFORM PLAN: The Commission on the 21st Century Economy released its report and recommendations on ways to update and improve California's outdated revenue system and make it more reflective of our state's economy. The report reflects nine months of work by the bi-partisan commission jointly appointed by the Governor and Legislative leaders. The recommendations include a significant reduction in personal income tax rates for all income groups, elimination of the state sales tax, changes to taxes on commerce, a strengthened rainy day fund and a new tax dispute forum. For more information go to www.cotce.ca.gov.

FEDERAL

CONGRESS HEARS FROM REALTORS® ON HOMEBUYER TAX CREDIT: The Call for Action asking Congress to extend and expand the homebuyer tax credit is still open. NAR has been working hard to get this CFA out there amongst the members, and it seems to be paying off! Over 106,000 REALTORS® have taken action which is a 10.4% response rate. The Broker Involvement Program is helping to build our response rates and we hope they will continue to grow. Another push on the CFA will go out next week. ***Brokers:*** *Join the Broker Involvement Program and help advocate for your business! Call SBAOR Government Affairs for more information.*

IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME! With summer over and the kids back in school, it's time to think again about how REALTORS® give back to the community and help make our neighborhoods a better place. Check out some great resources at "Tools for Taking Action In Your Community" at www.REALTOR.org/government_affairs. Find great information for getting involved in local schools, housing, transportation and diversity issues.

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