

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor John J. Benoit
Supervisor Marion Ashley

SUBMITTAL DATE:
October 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Recommendation to the State and Assembly to establish the Bi-Partisan Caucus on International Trade and Investment

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors directs:

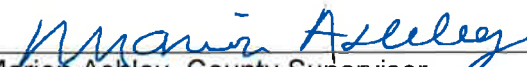
- 1.) The County Executive Officer, Assistant County Executive Officer(s), Managing Director of EDA, and the County Foreign Trade Commissioner join with the Board of Supervisors in encouraging the State Senate and State Assembly to establish a bi-partisan caucus on international trade and investment
- 2.) The County Executive Officer and or his designee inform the county's lobbyists in Sacramento that it is the desire of the Board of Supervisors to advocate, within the state legislature, for the creation of a bi-partisan caucus on international trade and investment for the benefit of all of California, her 58 counties and 478 incorporated cities

BACKGROUND: California, 58 counties and 478 incorporated cities comprise the eighth largest economy in the world. Our Gross State Product (GSP) reached \$ 1.9 trillion in 2010. With 95 percent of the market for manufactured goods, services, and agricultural products off shore, it would be of great benefit to California's workers, business, and local governments for both houses of the legislature to work in a bi-partisan manner to promote trade and international investment in our state. Such a bi-partisan caucus could assist the Office of the Governor, constitutional officers of the State of California and, appointed State Cabinet Officers, in crafting legislation, regulations, and policies that promote trade and international investment within our state. The proposed caucus would also be of great assistance in promoting trade and exports of products produced by our statewide workforce and would likely add desperately need jobs to help reduce the state's unemployment rate.

(Continued)



John J. Benoit, County Supervisor
Representing the 4th District



Marion Ashley, County Supervisor
Representing the 5th District

Supervisor John J. Benoit

Supervisor Marion Ashley

Recommendation to the State and Assembly to establish the Bi-partisan Caucus on International Trade and Investment

October 15, 2012

Page 2

BACKGROUND: (Continued)

It should be noted that no such caucus exists in the California State Legislature at this time. The Senate operates its own Office of International Relations and has done so since 1987. The establishment of a bi-partisan caucus that promotes export, trade, and international investment in California would complement the efforts currently being made by the Senate Office of International Relations. If requested, the County Foreign Trade Office, within our Economic Development Agency, will serve as our liaison to the caucus and its members.