Don't Allow Legislators to Continue Ignoring Real Housing Solutions

VICA opposes Senate Bill 3 (Beall), which would place a $3 billion general obligation bond on the 2018 ballot to fund existing affordable housing programs in California. This bill fails to address underlying issues of the California housing crisis and will not achieve the author's intent of increasing access to affordable housing. 1.5 million low income households lack affordable housing, but the measure would only produce 50,000 new and rehabilitated housing units. The bond revenue will be used to fund existing programs which have been labeled as successful even though the larger housing crisis has worsened. This measure allows state legislators and local elected officials to continue ignoring the systemic issues causing the housing crisis, such as inappropriate use of CEQA to block projects and onerous local planning processes. VICA remains committed to helping California, and specifically Los Angeles, find affordable housing solutions for its residents. However, this bond, if approved by voters, would once again allow lawmakers to proclaim that they are taking action on the housing shortage without fixing the problems that have held development back for years.

Click here to support SB 3.

Last Chance to Register for VICA's 4th Annual Congressional Luncheon!

Friday, July 7, 2017

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Don't miss our 4th Annual Congressional Luncheon, a unique opportunity to engage with federal elected officials who represent the Valley in a casual Q&A format.

$150 - regular price ticket

Confirmed Speakers as of 06/23/17
Rep. Tony Cardenas
Rep. Brad Sherman

Click here for registration form.

Oppose Additional Costly Energy Mandates

VICA opposes Senate Bill 100 (de León), which adds expensive and unfeasible mandates on energy production in California. Supporting renewable energy is a laudable goal, but government mandates and overregulation are not the best way of achieving the desired outcome. Low cost, reliable energy is necessary for California's economy to continue robust growth and for California families to have access to affordable electricity. SB 100 lacks any cost containment mechanism or 'off-ramp' if the cost of increasing production of renewable energy becomes economically unviable or threatens energy reliability. Mandatory RPS procurement amounts have already impacted ratepayers, and accelerating and increasing the mandates will further increase rates.

Click here to support SB 100.

Support Bill That Will Spur Innovation and Energy Efficiency

VICA supports Senate Bill 356 (Skinner), which would require the Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, and the California Independent System Operator to electronically publish energy-related data on a single website, in an easily accessible format. Access to energy use data through a protected and verified system will allow businesses to better manage their buildings and increase the energy efficiency of their facilities, as required. This bill protects
Hot Issues

Employment
According to a report released on Monday, an estimated 519,500 Californians are working in clean-energy industries, and Los Angeles County is leading the way. The report reveals that Los Angeles County ranks first among the top 10 California Counties for clean energy employment with 117,000 jobs.

Politics
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors would be expanded from five to seven members and an elected chief executive post would be created under a measure recommended Wednesday by a state Senate panel despite opposition from the county. Click here to oppose SCA 12.

Business
On Wednesday, California Secretary of State Alex Padilla revealed a new tool that will allow business owners in the state to create limited liability companies online, a cumbersome process that was previously required to be done by mail. Click here for more information.

Education
On Tuesday, the Los Angeles Unified School District board approved a

Join VICA for Our 2017 Local Officeholders Luncheon!

Thursday, August 17, 2017
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Hilton Universal Hotel
555 Universal Hollywood Drive Universal City

Local officeholders representing L.A. County, the City of Los Angeles, other Valley cities, LAUSD and L.A. Community College District join VICA and its members to discuss issues facing businesses.

$250 - Early Bird Rate - Order by 7/14/17

Confirmed Speakers as of 06/23/17
$7.5 billion budget that will increase spending, but also lay off more than 100 library aides, clerks and other support staff next school year. The layoffs come from an expected decrease in enrollment to LAUSD schools.

Healthcare
U.S. Senate leaders have released the “Better Care Reconciliation Act of 2017,” which would cut federal funding for healthcare. The plan is similar to the bill passed by the House last month, which the Congressional Budget Office projected would save the federal government $119 billion over the next decade, raise insurance deductibles and leave millions without health coverage.

Housing
A report released by the UCLA Anderson School of Management predicts that high home and rent prices in Los Angeles are unlikely to change in the near future. The report finds that Los Angeles is the single most unaffordable city for both renters and buyers. Though the cost of housing is higher in other cities, median income in LA is low enough that more residents will struggle to make monthly rental payments or save to buy a home.

Click here for registration form.
Member Messages:
Get Your Message in VICA Weekly!

VICA members can promote their business, events and news in VICA Weekly. Member messages are available for $50 per week or $175 for four weeks. Messages are text-based and may not contain more than 70 words. A logo may be added for an additional $5 per week. For more information or to schedule your member message, contact Helene@vica.com or call (818) 817-0545.

ABOUT VICA
Presenting the business perspective on behalf of employers in the San Fernando Valley cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, San Fernando and Santa Clarita.

Read more about VICA at vica.com.

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