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Assembly
California Legislature



MARTIN GARRICK
ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN LEADER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

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TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

June 12, 2009

County of San Diego
Board of Supervisors
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear County Supervisors:

I am writing in response to your recent letter regarding the state budget situation. Specifically, you requested my answers to two questions relating to local government funds and my thoughts on how to balance the budget.

As you know, I have aggressively sought input on budget balancing solutions from county and city government officials. In fact, I have requested information on how to reform the In Home Support Services program, information identifying waste, fraud and abuse in government programs, and ideas on how to reduce or eliminate expensive mandates.

Furthermore, the gravity of the budget situation facing our state, has made it even more critical that we continue our discussions on how to best balance the state budget in the most fair, honest, and fiscally prudent way. Please know that I remain committed to a continued dialogue between our respective government bodies and that I value the work and importance of local government.

I agree with your calls for a fix to the structural deficit and alignment of expenditures with revenues. I feel very strongly that this budget should be done without raising taxes and that it should also be free of the accounting gimmicks and tricks that we have seen in years past. I am paying close attention to the Budget Conference Committee process and will most likely be voting on budget solutions within the coming weeks. With that said, it would be disingenuous of me to commit to one particular solution before the Conference Committee complete its job.

Once the Conference Committee process is completed and the Assembly starts reviewing specific budget bills, I would be more than happy to discuss your concerns further. In the meantime, please continue to provide me with information that you feel may be of interest to my colleagues and I while we deal with this difficult budget situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin Garrick".

Martin Garrick
74th Assembly District