

Creating Competitive Advantages within the Southern California Logistical Network

Friday, February 28, 2014 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
San Diego Port Authority, 3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California, 92101

Hearing Agenda

International trade and foreign investment serve as critical components of California's \$2 trillion economy. If California were a country, it would be the 17th largest exporter and the 14th largest importer in the world. California's land, sea, and air ports of entry serve as key international commercial gateways for the over \$500 billion in products entering and exiting the country. World over, California products and services are generally considered top in their class, which has resulted in over 4 million California workers benefiting from the state's supremacy in trade and foreign investment. In the future, much of the state's economic growth will be derived through greater integration within the global economy and the strength of trade-related industry sectors including advanced manufacturing, biotechnology, and information technologies.

In today's hearing, Assemblymember Jose Medina and Members of the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy will examine how the Southern California goods movement system impacts the state's global competitiveness and ability to attract and retain high wage jobs in trade-related industry sectors. This is a follow-up to the Committee's November 2013 hearing on the role of trade and foreign investment on the Inland Empire economy.

I. Welcome, Introductions and Opening Statements

*Assemblymember **Jose Medina**, Chair and other members of the JEDE Committee will provide opening statements and frame key discussion items. In addition, **Bob Nelson**, Chairman of the San Diego Port Commission, will welcome the Committee to Port of San Diego.*

II. Trade-Related Industries and Goods Movement

- ***Marek Gootman**, The Brookings Institute*
- ***Sharon Neely**, Southern California Association of Governments*
- ***Cindy Gompper-Graves**, South County Economic Development Corporation*

Mexico and Canada have historically been California's number one and two top trade partners. Other top trade partners include China, Japan and the European Union. Moving products in and through California ports of entry requires quality infrastructure, globally integrated businesses, and multi-skilled workers. In this panel, our first witness will discuss the broader global economic connections and competitiveness of North American metro-areas. The second and third presenters will share how trade corridors and goods movement contributes to the competitiveness of Southern California communities.

III. Job Creation and Business Development within the Southern California Logistical Network

- ***David Labatque**, Los Angeles Sea Port*
- ***Joel Valenzuela**, San Diego Sea Port*
- ***Jeff Williamson**, California Community College System, Logistical Management Curriculum*

Southern California's ports of entry link manufacturers and producers across the U.S. to foreign markets. These same ports move raw materials, components, and final products to domestic businesses and consumers. In this second panel, the presentations will focus on key opportunities for leveraging and enhancing Southern California's goods movement-related infrastructure to support quality jobs and business success in trade-related industry sectors.

II. Public Comment

Those interested in speaking during the public comment period should sign-up at the registration table.

IV. Summary of Key Findings and Closing Remarks

Members of JEDE will be invited to share final comments and provide recommendations on further actions.