

California Enterprise Zone Program: A Review and Analysis

Tuesday, August 18, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. to Noon
California State Capitol, Room 126

AGENDA

This is the first in a series of hearings being held by the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy on the California Enterprise Zone Program and other geographically-targeted economic development area (G-TEDA) programs. Collectively, the G-TEDA programs represent one of the state's primary economic and workforce development initiatives.

In this hearing, presentations will provide an overview of the G-TEDA programs, review the implementation of the 2006 reforms, and address the effectiveness of the G-TEDA programs in bringing about positive change in California's economically disadvantaged communities.

I. Welcome, Introductions and Opening Statements

Chairman Pérez and Members of the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy will give opening statements and frame the key issues to be examined during the hearing.

II. Overview of the California Enterprise Zone Program

- *Lynn Jacobs, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development*
- *Craig Johnson, President, California Association of Enterprise Zones*
- *Jean Ross, Executive Director, California Budget Project*

The G-TEDA programs were established over two decades ago. Prior to the 2005-2006 joint hearings by the JEDE and Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee and the enactment of AB 1550 (Chapter 718, Statutes of 2006), the program had limited oversight. During this panel, presenters have been asked to provide an overview of the programs and to give specific details on how the programs are administered, monitored, and evaluated. At the close of the panel, presenters will be asked to define the qualities of a successful economic and workforce program for underserved areas and recommend a realistic and cost-effective evaluation process for ensuring public moneys are well spent.

III. Business Activity within G-TEDAs

- *Charles Swenson, Professor, University of Southern California*
- *Jed Kolko, Associate Director, Public Policy Institute of California*
- *Enita Elphick, President, Unity Forest Products, located in Yuba City Enterprise Zone*
- *Lenny Goldberg, Director, California Tax Reform Association*
- *Chris Micheli, representing the Aerospace Industry*

Statute provides legislative intent that clearly states that the purpose of the enterprise zone program is to “stimulate business and industrial growth in depressed areas of the State.” Presentations during this panel will discuss how the G-TEDA programs are used or could be better used to meet this statutory intent.

IV. Economic and Workforce Development in G-TEDA's

- **Clifford Weiss**, Deputy Director for Economic Development, City of Los Angeles
- **Timothy Kelley**, President of Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation and past Chair of local workforce investment board
- **Barry Broad**, Legislative Advocate, International Longshore and Warehouse Union
- **Sunaena Chhatry**, Senior Policy Associate, EARN
- **Shawn Gutteresen**, Vice President, BLT Enterprises

The G-TEDA programs operate within a larger economic and workforce development network. Presentations during this panel will present information on how these programs are used as part of the larger economic development strategy and what improvements could be made to provide stronger community development support.

V. Public Comment

Anyone interested in addressing the Committee may sign up to speak during the public comment period. A sign-up sheet is located at the back of the hearing room.

VI. Summation of Key Concepts and Closing Remarks (5 minutes)

Assembly Members will highlight key issues and provide recommendations on further actions by the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy.