



Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

TUESDAY | October 3, 2006

THE BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE:



Prop. 89's Goal: To Silence Business



Coming up at the Chamber

[View all upcoming events on our Web calendar.](#)

THU | Oct. 5
71st Annual Construction Industry Awards
[more info](#)

THU | Oct. 5
Business After Hours Mixer with the L.A. Kings
[more info](#)

FRI | Oct. 6
Business Survival--Preparing for Disaster Executive Forum
[more info](#)

TUE | Oct. 10
One Global California U.S. Middle East Ambassadors Tour
[more info](#)

TUE | Oct. 10
Referral Network
Grow Your Business
[more info](#)

WED | Oct. 11
Doing Business With China
[more info](#)

FRI | Oct. 13
Health Care Committee Meeting
[more info](#)

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information, visit www.lachamber.org

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Why is business in California always the target?

Too many people in our state believe that corporations are bottomless pits to tax and regulate. They fail to understand the impact that more taxes and more regulations have on the business climate and new jobs for our residents.

Proposition 89, sponsored by the California Nurses Association, would impose a tax increase on corporations and financial institutions to raise \$200 million per year to publicly finance campaigns for state offices.

This is not a voluntary check-off, it is a tax increase paid by businesses only. And to add insult to injury, Proposition 89 would restrict the voice of these same businesses in the election process. If that sounds like an attack on business and jobs, well that is exactly what it is.

The intent of Proposition 89 is to eliminate business as a voice in California politics by drastically reducing its ability to support or oppose the candidates and ballot measures of our choice.

Proposition 89 is being touted as only having an impact on big business. In the eyes of proponents, big business is bad for California. The truth is that the measure will tax every business organized as a corporation. This proposition will silence the voice of both large and small businesses in our state.

Proponents want voters to forget that we already have campaign limitations adopted in **Proposition 34 in 2000**. The authors of Proposition 89 intended to create an uneven playing field. This measure is discriminatory and self-serving, and will mute the voice of business and allow unions and their candidates to dominate the political process with their money.

The measure places major restrictions on those candidates who do not accept public funds and rewards those who do. For example, candidates not accepting public funds cannot contribute to their own campaigns. And if one candidate accepts public funds while the other does not, the amount of public funds provided can increase by five times for the candidate who uses public funds to finance their personal campaign.

It's not just a business coalition opposing Proposition 89. It includes taxpayer groups and some unions who understand that the measure is anti-business, anti-jobs and is probably unconstitutional.

Please join us and [many other organizations throughout the state](#) in voting **NO** on Proposition 89.

And that's *The Business Perspective*.

Gary L. Toebben
President & CEO
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

CORRECTION: Last week's Business Perspective gave the incorrect data on how many California teenagers start smoking. It's estimated nearly 50,000 start smoking each year.

The Business Perspective is a weekly opinion piece by Gary Toebben, President & CEO of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, produced with the input of Senior Policy Advisor Rusty Hammer.

by
Gary Toebben,
President &
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Angeles Area
Chamber of
Commerce

**L.A. Business
THIS WEEK**
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