

## CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

April 11, 2008

The Honorable Janet Napolitano  
Office of the Governor  
1700 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Napolitano:

As chambers of commerce across Arizona, we encourage you to sign HB 2220 to permanently repeal the state equalization property tax. Signing this legislation would prevent an approximately \$250 million annual tax hike on businesses and residential property owners during a time when Arizonans are experiencing economic strain.

The statewide business community has made permanent repeal of the state equalization rate a top priority for the 2008 legislative session. Currently, commercial property owners in Arizona pay more than twice the amount in taxes that residential property owners pay. That places Arizona in the top highest for commercial property taxes and far above our neighboring states, thus harming our competitiveness.

The business community recognizes the severity of the state's fiscal crisis. We remain convinced; however, that the economy is best stimulated by private enterprise. Creating an environment in which businesses can flourish will allow companies to make additional investments that will advance our economy in a powerful way.

During this economic crisis, we have an opportunity to put policies in place that position us for future success. Permanently repealing the statewide equalization rate is one important step in that direction.

Sincerely,

Ajo District Chamber of Commerce  
Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce  
Benson-San Pedro Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Camp Verde Chamber of Commerce  
Chino Valley Area Chamber of Commerce  
East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance:  
    Ahwatukee Foothills Chamber of Commerce  
    Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce  
    Chandler Chamber of Commerce  
    Gilbert Chamber of Commerce  
    Mesa Chamber of Commerce

Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce  
Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce  
Tempe Chamber of Commerce  
Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce  
Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce  
Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce  
Pinetop-Lakeside Chamber of Commerce  
Prescott Chamber of Commerce  
Prescott Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Sedona Chamber of Commerce  
Southern Arizona Chambers of Commerce Alliance:  
    Marana Chamber of Commerce  
    Nogales-Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce  
    Northern Pima County Chamber of Commerce  
    Rio Rico Chamber of Commerce  
    Greater Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce  
    Tucson Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Chamber of Commerce  
    Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
    Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce  
St. John's Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Tri-City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
West Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance:  
    Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce  
    Glendale Chamber of Commerce  
    Peoria Chamber of Commerce  
    Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce  
    Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce  
    Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce  
Williams-Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce  
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce