

# LACN PAC



A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE LUMBER ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA & NEVADA  
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Dear LACN Member:

I wish I had better news to tell you about state government and what's happening to us in business. About the only good news is that many of the legislators are running scared, ducking constituents and having trouble raising campaign money.

The continuing bad news is that they continue to avoid the reality that spending must stop, taxes and fees are killing business, and the regulatory agencies are running amok. They keep coming up with false assumptions and diversions of money to cover the fact that this state is in real trouble.

I was one of a number of LACN members in Sacramento recently for the LACN Government Affairs Day. The legislature doesn't know what to do to fix a \$36 billion deficit. There isn't enough discretionary spending to cut to make up a \$36 billion deficit. That leaves tax increases and or job creation to increase the state's income stream. The Republicans put forth ideas to help with job creation but so far all these ideas have been shot down in committee.

It is so bad this could really be the beginning of the end for California - seriously. Only the rich will be able to live here and all businesses will end up all being cute little boutiques and wine shops. Did you know that *saw dust* is now listed on the Proposition 65 list of "chemicals" known to the state to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm? Did you know that an independent study was released in September 2009 quantifying the cost of regulations on CA businesses? The authors estimate that regulatory costs on California businesses is \$490 Billion! That's four times the state budget.

One fact of political life we must live with is that political contributions gain us the access we need to explain and promote our views. LACN PAC needs your help today as we continue to support our friends and as we build for the next election cycle.

We're one of the small political action committees in Sacramento, with generally less than \$40,000 to spend in an election cycle. We can leverage that money by partnering with our friends at the California Forestry Association on events and contributions. But we're far short of the millions of dollars spent by the unions and trial lawyers. That's a fact of political life.

We're investing in the initiative campaign to suspend AB 32, California's greenhouse gas emission legislation, that adds significant additional costs to every family and every business as the Air Resources Board makes its rules to implement this ill-conceived legislation.

We meet with small groups of legislators explaining the importance of the wood products and building materials industry to this state.

How much should you give? That's up to you and your business. Attached above is a contribution card. **Checks should be made to LACN PAC** (and we do take credit cards.) Thank you for your support of LACN PAC.

Sincerely,

*Augie Venezia*

AUGIE VENEZIA

LACN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CHAIR