



# SMVCC

Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor & Convention Bureau

Clerk of the Board  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407  
Santa Barbara, Ca 93101

**Re: Ballot Measure on Business License Oil Tax**

Chairman Lavagnino and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce opposes the County of Santa Barbara placing a measure on the ballot to impose an additional tax on our local petroleum resources.

The County already has an existing tax in place that generates about \$2.50 in property taxes per barrel of oil. Of that, 55% goes to the County's General Fund for public services and 45% to our schools for education.

As a pro-business organization, we feel that this proposal discourages industry at a time when we should be doing everything we can to promote businesses, jobs and economic development. We strongly believe there is no chance of garnering a 2/3 majority of voters because most people understand that the additional taxes will have a negative impact on the industry.

The Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce strongly urges the Board of Supervisors to vote against this measure.

Sincerely,

Bob Hatch  
President/CEO