

# Joint Informational Hearing with Business & Professions Committee; Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy Committee; & the California Legislative Black Caucus

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## WHAT IS THE STATE OF BLACK ENTERPRISES IN CALIFORNIA?

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

California State Capitol, Room 437

3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

## Agenda:

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- 3:00 PM to 3:10 PM:** Welcome & Opening Remarks
- **Chairs**
  - **CLBC Members**
- 3:10 PM to 3:30 PM:** A Tale of Two Black-Owned Businesses in California
- **Bonnie James:** *President & CEO, BRJ & Associates, LLC*
  - **Larry Lee:** *President & CEO, The Sacramento Observer*
- 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM:** What are the opportunities and obstacles facing black owned franchises in California?
- **Reginald Webb:** *McDonalds Franchisee*
  - **Michael Lacey:** *Fat Burger Franchisee*
  - **Edward Barnett:** *Buffalo Wild Wings Franchisee*
- 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM:** Panel I:  
Topic: The State of Black Enterprises in California - 10 Year Review
- **Aubry Stone:** *President & CEO, California Black Chamber of Commerce*
  - **Malaki Seku-Amen:** *President & CEO, California Urban Partnership*
  - **Susan Mernit:** *CEO/Executive Director, Hack the Hood*
- 4:30 PM to 4:50 PM:** Panel II –  
Topic: The State of Black Owned Businesses Doing Business with the State.
- **CalPers:** *Ted Eliopoulos, Chief Investment Officer*  
*Laurie Weir, Sr. Portfolio Manager for Targeted Investment Programs*
  - **BOE:** *Cynthia Bridges, Executive Director*
- 4:50 PM to 5:00 PM:** Q & A/Public Comments
- 5:00 PM to 5:05 PM:** Closing Remarks & Next Steps

# What is the State of Black Enterprises in California?

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*The California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) will look at the state of Black Enterprises in California and how conducive to their growth is the economy of California.*

## **Overview:**

CLBC will take a close look at the how Black Enterprises are performing in California and what they need to help them to grow. The following is a list of areas that will be addressed:

- How many black-owned businesses exist in California?
- Has there been a decline or increase in black enterprises over the past 10 years?
- How many black owned businesses do business with the State of California?
- What are the issues facing black owned businesses in the State of California?
- How can policy assist?

## **Participants:**

- The California Legislative Black Caucus
- The Governor's Office of Business and Development
- Small Business Advocates
- State Agency Contracting Officers
- Chambers
- Community Leaders
- General Public