

March 6, 2007

The Honorable Tim Bee
Arizona State Senate
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear President Bee:

As you know, Arizona property taxpayers have been receiving their Notice of Valuations from the county assessors around the state over the last month. Attached are various newspaper articles that have been published in recent weeks regarding the increases in property valuations throughout the state.

This legislative session, ATRA has been advocating for the successful passage of two measures that we believe directly address this major policy issue. First, SB1028 and HB2400 addresses Arizona's extraordinarily high business property taxes by accelerating the implementation of the reform measure passed two years ago. Second, SB1027 and HB2401 will make the temporary tax relief passed last year permanent. As our position paper on SB1027/HB2401 points out, the temporary nature of the rate reduction completely undermines the message to taxpayers that the Legislature is serious about managing this problem.

Please feel free to contact me at 602-253-9121 with any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. McCarthy, President
Arizona Tax Research Association