



Los Angeles Councilwoman Janice Hahn  
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200 N. Spring St., Room 435, Los Angeles, CA 90012

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### **Councilmembers Hahn, Garcetti Ask for A More Business-Friendly Los Angeles**

Councilwoman Janice Hahn and Council President Eric Garcetti today asked for further reform of the City's business tax incentives, in an effort to assist local businesses, keep jobs and create new ones within the City of Los Angeles.

Over the past ten years, the City Council and Mayor have worked to decrease the tax burden on businesses in Los Angeles. The most recent changes to the City's business tax code were made through the Garcetti-Greuel tax reform of 2004. Since then, the overall business tax burden has decreased by 15% in the city of Los Angeles.

This year, Los Angeles County has reached an 11% unemployment rate – a 6% increase over last year. The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) has reported that an additional 89,000 jobs will be lost in the County by the end of this year, many of those jobs falling within Los Angeles city limits. Based on the current economic climate, Councilwoman Hahn and Councilman Garcetti have seen a clear need for significant business tax reform.

"At a time when we are facing severe job losses in the city of Los Angeles, the City needs to look at every possible incentive to attract businesses, keep them local, and keep them thriving, not only to maintain current jobs, but to create new ones," said Councilwoman Hahn. "And especially during tough economic times, we need to help our local businesses however we can."

"Now more than ever, we need to jump start our economy and put people to work. We need to build on the success of our business tax reforms and go further to attract and keep companies in Los Angeles. We're moving forward with analyzing a number of options so that we can enact reform that will effectively promote job creation and that makes sense for our city budget," said Council President Garcetti.

City departments will report back within 60 days on the feasibility of implementing the proposed tax relief programs.

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