

ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

Hearing on Budgets, Investment and California's Economy

**Tuesday, April 6, 2010
State Capitol Room 4202**

Background on Panelists

Jed Kolko

**Associate Director of Research and Research Fellow
Public Policy Institute of California**

Jed Kolko is Associate Director of Research and Research Fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), a non-profit, non-partisan research foundation. At PPIC, Mr. Kolko has written numerous reports on the California economy, economic development, housing, and technology policy. He advises policymakers in California and Washington, DC, on a range of economic policies. Prior to coming to PPIC in 2006, Mr. Kolko was Vice President and Research Director at Forrester Research, a technology consultancy, where he managed Forrester's consumer market research businesses and was the lead researcher on consumer devices and access technologies. Mr. Kolko has also worked at the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, the World Bank, and the Progressive Policy Institute. He has an A.B. summa cum laude in social studies and a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.

Jerry Nickelsburg

Senior Economist

Anderson Forecast, UCLA Anderson Graduate School of Management

Jerry Nickelsburg is the senior economist of the Anderson Forecast, the state and regional forecast produced by the Anderson School of Management at UCLA. He is also a lecturer in global economics and management at the Anderson School and managing principal at Deep Blue Economics, a consulting firm located in Southern California. Mr. Nickelsburg held a variety of policy and technical position for major U.S. corporations and for the Federal Reserve Bank system. His work has been published in a number of scholarly periodicals. Mr. Nickelsburg received an undergraduate degree from George Washington University, a master's in economics from University of Colorado, and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota.

Loren Kaye

President

California Foundation for Commerce and Education

Loren Kaye was appointed president of the California Foundation for Commerce and Education (CFCE) in January 2006. CFCE is affiliated with the California Chamber of Commerce and serves as a “think tank” for the California business community. CFCE is dedicated to preserving and strengthening the California business climate and private enterprise through accurate, impartial and objective research and analysis of public policy issues of interest to the California business and public policy communities. Mr. Kaye has devoted his career to developing, analyzing and implementing public policy issues in California, with a special emphasis on improving the state’s business and economic climate. Mr. Kaye served in senior policy positions for Governors Pete Wilson and George Deukmejian, including Cabinet Secretary to the Governor and undersecretary of the California Trade and Commerce Agency. Mr. Kaye has also represented numerous private sector interests, managing issues that affect specific business sectors to promote an improved business climate or to resist further regulation or costs on business.

Stephen Levy

Director and Senior Economist

Center for the Continuing Study of the California Economy

Stephen Levy is Director and Senior Economist of the Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy (CCSCE) in Palo Alto. CCSCE is a private research organization founded in 1969 to provide an independent assessment of economic and demographic trends in California. CCSCE works with public institutions and private companies that require an explanation and analysis of California growth trends. Mr. Levy is the principal author of CCSCE’s annual report series on the California economy, which has acquired a national reputation for credible and independent analyses. CCSCE prepares long-term economic and demographic projections for public and private sector organizations in California. Mr. Levy has worked extensively on how the state budget and economy are related. He created the California Budget Challenge in partnership with Next Ten and has also worked with California Forward on linking future economic and demographic trends in California to state budget issues. Mr. Levy is a member of the NOVA (Silicon Valley) Workforce Board, the Board of the Bay Area Council Economic Institute and the Economic Allocation Advisory Committee to the Air Resources Board for AB 32 implementation and economic impact evaluation. He has degrees in economics from MIT and Stanford University.

Mac Taylor
Legislative Analyst
State of California

Mac Taylor was appointed to the position of Legislative Analyst in October 2008 as the fifth person to serve in that capacity since the office was founded in 1941. In his 30-year career with the office, he has served in various capacities, including program analyst, section director and deputy analyst. As Legislative Analyst, Mr. Taylor serves as the nonpartisan fiscal advisor to both houses of the California Legislature and oversees the preparation of annual fiscal and policy analyses of the state's budget and programs. His office is also responsible for preparing impartial analyses of all initiatives and constitutional measures qualifying for the state's ballot. Mr. Taylor earned a bachelor's degree, with highest honors, in political science from the University of California, Riverside, and a master's degree in public affairs from Princeton University. He serves on the Statewide Leadership Council of the Public Policy Institute of California.