

# CALIFORNIA CHAMBER of COMMERCE

ALLAN ZAREMBERG

President and Chief Executive Officer



December 17, 2008

Mr. Ed Malcik, Director  
Office of International Conferences  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Malcik:

Re: APEC 2011 Leaders' Meeting

In the selection process for hosting the APEC process in the United States in 2011, the California Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to choose a California city for the Leaders' Meeting. We fully support the proposals of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego to host the APEC 2011 Leaders' Meeting, and our organization asks that you work with our business and governmental communities to consider California cities for APEC Ministerial and Senior Official meetings during the course of 2011.

As you may know, the California Chamber is a broad-based nonprofit membership organization through which business, industry and agriculture join forces to work toward positive action on key issues affect California's economic climate.

The organization, established in 1890, is the largest and most broadly based employer representative in Sacramento. Its members include over 16,000 firms of all kinds and sizes, representing three million jobs--one quarter of the state's private sector workforce, as well as 450 affiliated local chambers of commerce and 200 trade associations.

The California Chamber supports expansion of international trade and investment, fair and equitable market access for California products abroad, and elimination of disincentives that impede the international competitiveness of California business.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) process is of central importance to the broadest array of United States economic interests, and there is no state more vitally engaged and with more at stake in our Asia-Pacific relationships than California.

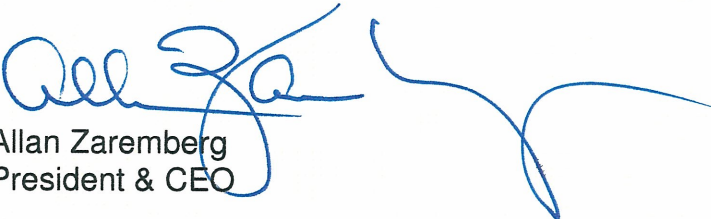
December 17, 2008  
Page 2

California's relationship includes more than \$68 billion of exports to APEC destinations, over \$422 billion in two-way shipping through California customs districts, among the most extensive two-way business and pleasure travel, and perhaps the most APEC expatriates and families living here than any other state.

Without question, California would offer one of the most attractive destinations of any state, and has the economic clout, business community, political stature, and event infrastructure that are essential for a successful Leaders' Meeting. Further, the state's business community and cities have organized themselves under a single statewide CalAPEC coalition, set a representative to the APEC Leaders' Meeting in Lima, and has been coordinating directly with the APEC Secretariat, past country host committees, and the National Center for APEC.

Choosing a California host is the right thing to do for our country and for organization of a successful US year in APEC. The California Chamber of Commerce is supportive of hosting APEC meetings in California in 2011. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Allan Zaremberg  
President & CEO

Cc: Ambassador Patricia Haslach, US Senior Official for APEC