PRESS RELEASE

Valley VOTE
Valley Voters Organized Toward Empowerment
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY LEADERS JOIN FORCES IN SUPPORT OF AB 2043 (THE BOLAND BILL)

Valley VOTE formed To Restore the Public's Right to Vote on Self Determination

Sherman Oaks, California, May 29 --

Valley Business and Homeowner Leaders put aside their differences Tuesday morning and joined forces in an effort to mobilize public support for AB 2043. The Boland Bill (AB 2043) restores the people's right to vote on self-determination and removes the City Council's power to veto this fundamental public right. The group will go by the name "Valley VOTE" which stands for Valley Voters Organized Toward Empowerment.

The meeting was attended by Jeff Brain, a Valley business leader; Richard Close, President of Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association; Millie Jones, Public Affairs Director for the San Fernando Valley Association of Realtors; Richard Leyner, Vice President of Government Affairs for United Chambers of Commerce; Don Schultz, President of Van Nuys Homeowners Association; Robert Scott, Chairman of the VICA Local Issues Committee; Marvin Selter, President of VICA, and Gerald Silver, President of Homeowners of Encino. A number of other Valley leaders were unable to attend but have pledged their full support and participation.
The group will have three co-chairs. Two were selected on Tuesday and will be Jeff Brain (818) 501-5862 and Richard Close (310) 277-1818. The third will be decided at the next meeting when additional interested leaders will be in attendance.

The group will have two primary objectives 1) Educating the Public, and, 2) Get the State Legislature to Pass the Bill. Valley VOTE will be undertaking a valley wide letter writing campaign, send speakers to Valley community meetings and functions, and is creating a WEB page where interested parties can share and exchange information on the matter. A number of events are being planned as well. Details will be released via public announcements.

Valley VOTE is not taking a position on secession. Valley VOTE's primary focus is to secure the passage of AB 2043 and remove the City Council's power to veto the public's right to vote on self-determination. Valley VOTE wants the public to know the truth about the Boland Bill and what's at stake. The Boland bill only restores the public's right to vote and to support the Boland bill does not necessarily mean one supports secession. "Whether or not the Valley ever votes on secession in another matter. The right of the public to vote on self-determination is a fundamental right, and the ultimate means of holding the City Council and Mayor accountable for the leadership, resources and services necessary to ensure a high quality of life for San Fernando Valley residents" said co-chair, Jeff Brain. "It provides the leverage necessary to force reluctant elected officials to seriously consider and implement meaningful government reforms."

Valley VOTE believes this is not just a Valley issue. Communities throughout Los Angeles should have the same right to vote on self-determination if they believe their City Leadership is not adequately serving their needs.

Representatives from Valley VOTE will be speaking this Saturday, June 1, 1996, 9:00 AM, to the San Fernando Valley Federation of Homeowner Associations, at the Van Nuys State Building, 6150 Van Nuys Blvd., in the auditorium.

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