



**JOHN CHIANG**  
California State Controller

November 1, 2008

***2008 Los Angeles / Valley Pride  
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender  
Celebrations***

Dear Friends:

I am honored to extend greetings on the occasion of the 2008 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Celebrations across our great State of California. The 2008 Pride events each year pay tribute to the progress the LGBT community has made in the fight for equality, social justice and civil rights. At the same time, these celebrations raise awareness, understanding and educate Californians about tolerance and respect for our diverse communities.

I have enjoyed a strong working relationship with the LGBT community for many years. As a member of the Board of Equalization, I worked with your community's advocates to provide surviving domestic partners with property tax protections similar to those enjoyed by married couples. Now our work continues as we help to educate domestic partners across California on new laws and requirements that affect their finances.

California's strength is built upon the contributions of the members of the LGBT community. The LGBT community plays a crucial role in shaping our diverse society. In recognition of your efforts in the fight for fairness and equal opportunity, I wish you continued success in all your future endeavors.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Chiang", is written over a large, stylized blue ink scribble that resembles a signature or a large flourish.

**JOHN CHIANG**  
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