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JANE TOLMACH FILES FOR ASSEMBLY SEAT

Oxnard City Councilwoman Jane Tolmach officially filed with the County Clerk's office today to run for the 36th Assembly District seat being vacated by Assemblyman J.K. "Ken" MacDonald.

Mrs. Tolmach, who was the first candidate to announce her intention to run for the Assembly seat, made the following statement at the time of filing.

"The most critical issue in the election has to do with effective representation in Sacramento for the people of Ventura County. The voters of this district have always been able to spot hollow campaign rhetoric and grandiose promises and to choose candidates who instead offer a demonstrated record of competency, effectiveness, and courage."

Mrs. Tolmach, a former mayor of Oxnard and a former trustee of the Oxnard High School District, stated ~~that~~ "one of the key responsibilities of a state legislator will be to insure that Ventura County gets its fair share of state revenues for such desperately needed public services as road and highway maintenance, transit systems, ^(Parks + Recreation) mental health services, and education. The people of Ventura County pay their fair share of state taxes and they have a right to expect a fair return for their tax dollars."

Mrs. Tolmach said that the issue of a four year college for Ventura County is a perfect example of one of the unmet needs of the County. "Ventura County is now one of the most populous counties in the state. Yet, our young people, if they wish to continue their education must

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either commute to Los Angeles or Santa Barbara or make arrangements to live away from home while they are in school. This adds an intolerable amount of expense to a college education, especially for low and middle income people." Mrs. Tolmach praised the efforts of State Senator Omer Rains on this issue, and pledged to join with him in working to make a four year college a reality in Ventura County.

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Mrs. Tolmach also stated that she intends to be a hard working, independent assemblywoman. "My past experience in local government and in civic affairs has taught me that one cannot effectively represent people unless one is willing to commit one's life to hard work and serious study of the issues and problems. As an assemblywoman, I will not have any outside business interests to maintain. My only concern and my only commitment will be to listen to the people of Ventura County and to represent them effectively in Sacramento. My time, my energy, and my loyalties will not be divided between my duties as a legislator and my concerns for my own business affairs."

At the level of state government, Mrs. Tolmach believes that the most urgent problem which California faces is in the area of tax reform. "The Democratic majority in the legislature and the governor have begun, for the first time in fifty years, to bring some degree of equity and justice into the tax laws of California. We are beginning to move in a direction in which wealthy individuals and large corporations will have to begin paying their fair share for government services, thereby removing some of the burden from the backs of low and middle income people. This is a step in the right direction. We must be careful, however, to make certain that we do not allow a shift back to local property taxes which tend to be regressive and discriminate against people of modest means and those on fixed incomes."