

# Jane Tolmach for Assembly

JANE TOLMACH FOR ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE :  
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## 36th District

April 16, 1976

Chuck Thomas  
Executive Editor  
Ventura County Star-Free Press  
567 East Santa Clara Street  
Ventura, California 93001

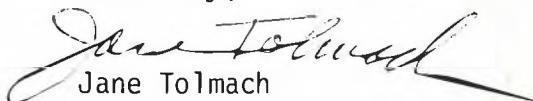
Dear Mr. Thomas :

Thank you for your request on information concerning my candidacy for the 36th Assembly District. Enclosed you will find the following items:

- (1) Recent Photograph
- (2) Biographical material in the form I feel it would be most intelligible to your readers
- (3) A statement of approximately 250 words
- (4) Responses to your questionnaire relative to my position on ten past and future pieces of legislation

Thank you again for your interest in my candidacy and for your willingness to make this information available to your readers. If I can provide you with any additional information, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

  
Jane Tolmach

Jane Tolmach --Candidate's Statement

The choice of a member of the Assembly from the 36th Assembly District is an extremely critical matter -- one which will influence the well-being of people in Ventura County for many years to come. With that in mind, please consider my position on two issues which are particularly relevant to residents of our County.

TAX REFORM -- During the past 12 years, personal income tax dollars have risen from 13% of the General Fund to 34% of the General Fund. During that same period of time, bank and corporation taxes have decreased from 20% of the General Fund to 12% of the General Fund. This means basically that there has been a shift in the burden of taxation from those best able to pay to those least able to pay. I believe that Governor Brown and the State Legislature have begun to reverse that trend and to bring some equity into California's tax laws. As a member of the Assembly, I will devote myself to becoming a part of this reform movement. As a member of the Assembly, I will be free of outside business interests and will be able to approach such issues as taxation objectively, fairly, and with the interest of the public foremost.

FOUR YEAR COLLEGE -- One of the most critical unmet needs of Ventura County is for a four year college. The financial burden on the families of young people who must leave the County to continue their educations beyond the Community College level is intolerable. I believe that I will be able to utilize the knowledge, skills, and demonstrated effectiveness which I have shown in many years of service in local government to help make this college a reality once and for all. I intend to seek a position of leadership in the State Assembly and to use that position to effectively represent the interests of Ventura County in Sacramento.

It is on the basis of my freedom from conflicts of interest, my past

record of ~~performance~~ as a School District Trustee, a former mayor of Oxnard, and a member of the Oxnard City Council, and my willingness to do the work necessary to become an effective legislator that I ask your support in this very important election.] — on back page of brochure  
above mailing stamp.

~~I have demonstrated~~

My record of performance in local government shows that I am able and willing to act on behalf of the people I have been elected to represent. I have always exercised independent judgment and have not been afraid to withstand pressure, ~~from powerful interests~~. I do not believe in following a party line as being a rubber stamp; I will continue to be a strong <sup>independent</sup> representative for the interests of Ventura County in the state legislature.

~~in seeking the popularity of other elected officials~~

I believe that a public official is elected to represent the people, not to seek popularity with other elected officials. ~~or play the "Hobby" system game.~~

Jane Tolmach

Position on Past and Future Legislation

A.B. 15 -- Law to Preserve Prime Agricultural Land

I favor the goal of preserving prime agricultural land. However, I could only support AB 15 if amendments proposed by the League of California Cities are incorporated into the law. Specifically, there would have to be a provision assuring that local government be able to utilize land which is included in the Act for important civic purposes such as school construction, neighborhood parks, and planned industrial development in certain circumstances. It is also imperative that the State commit itself to paying those costs associated with the implementation of the Act, rather than thrusting such costs upon the local taxpayer. The current cost estimate for the City of Oxnard for implementation of the Coastal Program(which includes the Prime Agricultural Land Study) is \$1,255,500.

A.B. 1047 -- Tax Returns of Welfare Recipients

I would have voted to support this legislation. Not only would it have assured welfare recipients and their families the same civil liberties as all other persons, it would also strengthen the self-assessment nature of the tax laws by encouraging honesty in the reporting of income.

A.B. 841 -- Insurance Sales by Banks

Presently, the law, with a few exceptions, does not permit banks to sell insurance. Before allowing banks to go into the insurance business, I would insist upon a comprehensive study which would assess the effects of such an authorization upon the price structure of the insurance industry.

My sole concern in making a decision in this matter would be with the immediate and long term benefits to the consumer. I would have to be satisfied that the sale of insurance by banks would lead to increased availability of insurance at competitive prices and that it would not create a monopolistic insurance industry.

A.B. 1725 -- Ban on Aerosol Spray Cans

Given the research which has been done on dangers to the ozone layer which aerosol spray cans represent and the easy availability of substitute forms of packaging, I would support this proposal.

A.B. 1896 -- Change in Date of Admission Day

I would be inclined to support this proposal because I believe it would simplify the planning of school districts and make the start of school a little easier for parents, teachers, administrators, and children each year.

SCHOOL FINANCE AND STATEWIDE PROPERTY TAX

The present system of school finance in California is inequitable and I fully concur with the Serrano-Priest decision. We must change our method of financing public school education in such a way as to (1) assure each child an equal and appropriate education regardless of where he or she happens to live, and (2) the taxing mechanism which brings about this equalization must be fair, equitable, and progressive. At the same time, I am somewhat fearful of giving the State a new taxing power such as a state-wide property tax. There are, at present, several important school finance bills which have been introduced and there are a number of major computerized studies being conducted in Sacramento to assist in figuring out the best way to resolve this difficult problem. At this point I can only commit myself to the philosophical goal of equalization and to increasing the State share of funding for public schools. I don't believe

that adequate information exists at the present time to base a firm decision as to the precise taxing mechanism which should be employed in arriving at the goal.

DEPOSIT ON DRINK CONTAINERS

More than a year ago, the Oxnard City Council requested the State Legislature to pass such a Bill. This was designed to reduce the cost of litter and trash collection and to conserve natural resources. I supported that proposal then and I still support it today.

STATE COASTAL PLAN

I favor adoption of a State plan to achieve preservation of the California coast. The people of California, in passing Proposition 20, clearly indicated that they felt such preservation to be in the public interest. However, there are several amendments which I would have to see added to the plan which was submitted to the Legislature before I could support it in good conscience. First, I would have to be assured that the development and implementation of the plan would be in the hands of local government and that final enforcement authority would lie with elected state officials rather than with an independent commission. This would provide this best model for public accountability in an extremely important area of government control and regulation. I have serious reservations about the creation of a permanent Coastal Commission and I share the concern of Assemblyman Charles Warren when he expressed a fear that we might be creating a "super-government." I would also have to be assured that the immense cost of coastal studies required by the plan would be financed by the State and not forced upon local governments which are having a difficult enough time raising revenues to maintain existing programs.

AGRICULTURAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

I would vote to continue the Board with its present powers. The Board was created by Law to deal with a very serious, emotionally volatile, and sometimes violent labor dispute. I believe most people would agree that the Board has functioned well under very difficult circumstances and that the situation has improved greatly over what it was in the past.

PROPOSITION 15 -- NUCLEAR INITIATIVE

The public has a right to expect adequate protection from all industrial hazards, including those created by nuclear reactors. For this reason, I agree with the basic purposes of Proposition 15. However, I have not yet decided whether the specific language and legal consequences of this initiative measure represent the best solution to balancing the interests of public safety on the one hand and the need for alternate sources of energy on the other.