



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER BILL LOCKYER

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## **State Treasurer Lockyer Names Zeny Agullana Executive Director of ScholarShare Investment Board, Jose Gomez Executive Director of California Educational Facilities Authority**

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer Bill Lockyer today announced his appointment of Zeny Agullana as Executive Director of the ScholarShare Investment Board (SIB) and Jose Gomez as Executive Director of the California Educational Facilities Authority (CEFA).

“Both Zeny and Jose bring a great level of knowledge and professionalism with them to my office,” said Lockyer. “SIB and CEFA play a vital role in California’s education system, with institutions, students and families all relying on the financial services these two bodies provide. I have worked with Zeny and Jose closely in the past and their leadership will only improve CEFA and ScholarShare.”

“I am honored to be named Executive Director of the ScholarShare Investment Board,” said Agullana. “The ScholarShare program is an excellent way for parents and families to save for their children’s college education and allows us to help achieve the goal of providing a college education for all young Californians. I am eager to continue in this pursuit and begin working on this wonderful program.”

Agullana will take the SIB position effective February 2, after serving the last eight years as Special Assistant to the Chief Deputy Attorney General for Administration and Policy at the Department of Justice (DOJ). Prior to her time at the DOJ, she served as a consultant to then-state Sen. Lockyer. She has extensive experience with administrative matters and project management. Agullana holds a bachelor’s degree in government from California State University, Sacramento.

The ScholarShare Investment Board sets investment policies and oversees all activities for the Golden State ScholarShare College Savings Trust, California’s college tuition 529 savings plan, which enables Californians to save for college by putting their money in tax-advantaged investments.

“I am pleased to serve as the Executive Director of the California Educational Facilities Authority,” said Gomez. “Providing low-cost tax-exempt financing to California’s universities allows for the expansion and construction of improved educational facilities for Californians. Additionally, the Authority’s student loan and academic assistance programs enhance educational opportunities for California’s university students and their families. I look forward to continuing CEFA’s excellent work.”

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Gomez joins CEFA after eight years as Special Assistant to Attorney General Bill Lockyer, serving as his senior advisor for administration and policy in Southern California. Before working in the Attorney General's Office, he was a policy consultant for then-state Sen. Lockyer. Gomez holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Cal Poly Pomona and master's degrees in political science and public administration from the University of Southern California.

CEFA provides tax-exempt, low-cost financing to private, non-profit higher educational facilities. CEFA administers several programs including a bond financing program for construction projects and a short-term loan program for equipment. The Authority also administers an academic assistance grant program and a student loan program. Additionally, CEFA is responsible for the California Student Loan Authority, which has the authority to issue tax-exempt bonds to fund student loans and to purchase federally reinsured student loans from eligible lending institutions.

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