

Written by Terry Geiling

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AACSC is sponsoring its annual Legislative Day in Sacramento on Tuesday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 25, and you are invited to attend. This is a "first"—the first time we have had the opportunity to include the membership in this outreach to the elected.

On Tuesday, we are hosting a dinner for our representatives at 6 p.m. The next day, we will begin with a general assembly in the Capitol where we will hear from state leaders and then adjourn to pre-assigned office visits by teams. Lunch will be at the Sutter Club, and Senator Ted Lieu will be the featured speaker. In the afternoon we will continue with the office visits. Last year we met with 14 of the state assemblymembers and state senators. We really need more apartment owners to join us so that we can carry the messages of owners regarding upcoming state laws. The elected REALLY need to hear how the proposed laws will affect your business, and they need to hear it directly from YOU! Our Lobbyist Ron Kingston will prepare our agenda of the bills; the Board will hear the arguments and approve the AACSC position; written materials will be developed and briefings will be held prior to the trip.

Other members of our statewide affiliation—Golden State Housing Providers—will join us on this Legislative Day. To give a true statewide perspective to the elected, we will have representatives from Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego counties. This delegation of nearly 100 trained leaders conversant on property management issues should make the legislators take note!

This is a once in a lifetime experience not to be missed! Our veteran advocate will show us the "capital ropes" and you will have the opportunity to go beyond the media presentations and see for yourself how democracy works in the Legislature. This trip will be an excellent chance for you to meet directly with these elected and express your opinions about the impact of bills.

Each member will be expected to arrange and pay for his/her own transportation and lodging. We have secured a group rate at the Hyatt significantly less than the usual cost; however, other hotel rooms are available at the Sheraton, Best Western, Holiday Inn and Hilton Garden Suites. Hotel shuttles from the airport are available.

Flights to Sacramento can be booked from LAX, Long Beach, John Wayne and Burbank airports, and the trip is an easy one hour, 15 minute flight. The charge is \$75.00 per person and includes the dinner, continental breakfast and lunch UNLESS you are a member of the AACSC

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Winners' Circle.

Winners' Circle members are those who contributed at least \$99.00 to the PAC (Income Property Owners' Political Action Committee) in 2011 and/or 2012. If you are a member, the \$75.00 Sacramento Trip fee is waived.

Email our Executive Director Nancy Ahlswede if you can join us, and she will make reservations for dinner, lunch and will place you on a lobbying team for the office visits. Please let her know if you have a personal relationship with any of the state assemblymembers, senators, or constitutional officers. Maybe they are neighbors, attend your church or synagogue, went to school with you (or your children) or are a relative. Maybe you haven't seen him/her since the election. Let us know—connections count!