

# It's Politics: A little dinner table diplomacy for political couple?

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Assemblyman Mike Eng, D-El Monte, may have been inspired by conversations with his wife, state Board of Equalization member Judy Chu, when he authored legislation to improve the state's tax collection on purchases over the Internet. Shoppers are supposed to pay a use tax when they make purchases from out-of-state vendors who don't have stores in California. But current law says shoppers can report the tax liability to the BOE or "elect" to report it on their income tax returns, suggesting paying the tax is optional. Eng's legislation would clarify that such reporting is required. The bill was passed out of the Assembly Tuesday and has moved on to the Senate.

**INCLUSIVE LEGISLATION:** Eng and various civil rights organizations announced yesterday that Dec. 17 has been designated as "Day of Inclusion." On that day in 1943 the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was repealed. The Act restricted the free flow to the United States of Chinese immigrants, which until then had come in large numbers because of the gold rush and railroad construction. The Day of Inclusion was designated through a concurrent resolution in the Assembly.

**MEMORIAL MILES:** Rep. Linda Sanchez announced last week that in honor of Memorial Day she donated 25,000 of her unused frequent flier miles to the Operation Hero Miles program, which provides free plane tickets for the family members of wounded troops. To follow her lead, or to learn more about eligibility, visit [www.heromiles.org](http://www.heromiles.org).

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