

From: Joan Rincon <[REDACTED]>
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I urge your support for AB 2783.

For too many years, Port oversight has suffered from a "set it and forget it" mentality.

Unfortunately, this has now devolved into skirmishes among Port Commissioners to determine the Commissioners selected by other cities, such as recently affected National City.

I know for a fact that then-Commissioner Rafael Castellanos inappropriately lobbied NC Councilmembers to change away from its Port rep toward a friend he found more palatable.

I know for a fact that Frank Urtasun played political cards relating to an exchange of campaign consulting for favors to obtain the Port Chairship.

We all know that Michael Zucchet is simultaneously leader of the largest union involving the City of San Diego's thousands of employees, a position that will heavily influence support or opposition to various local tax proposals that include both sales and TOT tax, and yet sits on the Port Board where his duty, conflictingly, is supposed to be for the best interests of ALL State residents in the enjoyment of Port lands.

These are just some of the superficial examples. Their head lawyer, Tom Russell, pitched a tantrum when a Commissioner pointed out that he was operating a side law practice (one dealing with marine law at that) and was representing patent applicants, at a time when his extremely lucrative Port contract called for the taxpaying public's exclusive access to his legal services.

It is past time for term limits, reform and oversight on this extremely lucrative organization called the San Diego Unified Port District.

Please vote yes on supporting AB 2783.

-Joan Rincon