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Governor Plans to Call Another Special Session

Only days after the adjournment of the 2009-10 Fourth Extraordinary Session, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger issued a press release on Wednesday, July 29, 2009, stating that he would call another special session immediately after the Commission on the 21st Century Economy submits its recommendations to reform California's out-of-date revenue laws that contribute to the state's volatile Budget cycles.

The 14-member bipartisan Commission, initially created in October of last year by an Executive Order of the Governor, is tasked with recommending changes to the law that will stabilize state revenues and reduce volatility, improving California's ability to successfully compete with other states and nations for jobs and investments, and more.

The Governor also signed Executive Order S-15-09, granting the Commission's request to extend the submission of its report to September 20, 2009. Therefore, the special session could be called as early as September 21. However, that assumes the Commission meets the new deadline for submission of its report; that deadline has been extended more than once already. According to news reports that surfaced this month, a rift has developed within the Commission, and liberal members planned to propose alternative recommendations.

Further information on the work of the Commission can be found at <http://www.cotce.ca.gov/>.

-Deborah Harmon

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