



CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER JOHN CHIANG

NEWS RELEASE

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Treasurer Chiang Issues Statement on Death of Advisor, Friend, Dr. Esmael Adibi

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer John Chiang and his staff are deeply saddened by the death of their long-time advisor and friend, Chapman University economist Dr. Esmael Adibi. He died Friday after suffering a stroke.

Adibi, known to his many friends and colleagues as “Essie,” was a member of John Chiang’s council of economic advisors for the past nine years, spanning his tenure as state controller and state treasurer.

Adibi, the director of Chapman’s A. Gary Anderson Center for Economic Research, was a sought-after source of clear, understandable and, often, humorous explanations of economic theories and developments. Journalists, government officials and private businesses regularly sought his analysis.

“His nine years of service to me, and more importantly, the people of California, were marked by consummate professionalism, quick-witted humor, and thoughtful insights guiding my decision-making through the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression,” said Chiang. “Essie -- an esteemed colleague, trusted advisor, and good friend -- will be sorely missed.”

The chair of Chiang’s economic council, Dr. Lynn Reaser, the chief economist of the Fermanian Business & Economic Institute at Point Loma Nazarene University, praised Dr. Adibi’s “invaluable insights” into the working of California’s large and complex economy.

Dr. Adibi, 63, earned his bachelor of science in economics from the University of Tehran in his native Iran. He received a master of business administration from Chapman and a master of science in economics from California State University, Fullerton. Claremont Graduate University awarded him a Ph.D. in economics.

Dr. Adibi is survived by his son, Keeya, his wife, Jila, his daughter, Roxanne and two grandchildren, Nicholas and Alexander.

A memorial service is scheduled for 11 a.m. on April 16 at the Fish Interfaith Center at Chapman University in Orange.

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