



CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER JOHN CHIANG

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Marc Lifsher
(916) 653-2995

State Treasurer Names New California ABL ACT Board Executive Director

Christina Elliott Previously Served as Acting Executive Director of the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Investment Board

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer John Chiang announced today that Christina Elliott will serve as Executive Director of the California Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act Board.

“Christina is a proven leader with comprehensive knowledge of savings plans issues and a passion for helping underserved communities and families in need,” Chiang said. “I am happy to have her continue to serve my office in this newly created role, and I am confident she will help create a program that positions California as a leader in expanding savings opportunities that provide for the needs of the disabled.”

In 2015 Gov. Jerry Brown signed the California ABL Act into law. ABL accounts will allow people with disabilities and their families to open tax-free savings accounts without fear of losing vital government assistance. The ABL Act Program will open up life-improving opportunities for California’s disabled population and their families in much the same way California’s ScholarShare 529 plans formed educational opportunities for the state’s students.

The program staff will ensure a vast coalition of stakeholders, interested parties, and impacted state, local and federal agencies are all involved in the development of this savings plan.

Elliott, who began her new post July 1, 2016, most recently served as the Acting Executive Director of the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Investment Board, which is chaired by Treasurer Chiang. In that capacity, she oversaw the work of developing a groundbreaking retirement savings program for 6.8 million Californians who do not have access to retirement savings plans at work.

Prior to joining California Secure Choice, Elliott held various leadership roles at the California Public Employees’ Retirement System, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and the California State Board of Equalization.

Elliott also serves as a County Commissioner on the First 5 Sacramento Commission where she is able to marry her passions for public service and for the needs of young children in Sacramento County. Ms. Elliott received a Bachelor's Degree in government journalism from California State University, Sacramento and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Southern California's Sol Price School of Public Policy.

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