



**MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT – S.3332 (Serrano)**  
**March 23, 2009**

**Title**

An act to amend the public officers law, in relation to requiring posting of notice of meetings on the internet.

**Summary**

This bill amends section 104 of the public officers law to expand the required notice for public meetings scheduled at least one week prior to such meeting to include publication on the public body's internet website, if such a site exists, at least seventy-two hours prior to such meeting.

**Statement of Support**

Citizens Union supports S.3332 because it would expand public notice of government meetings. Requiring that notice of public meetings scheduled at least a week in advance are published on a public entity's website ensures that the public is greater informed about the work of public bodies and better able to participate in such meetings or provide necessary feedback about government operations. As citizens increasingly use the internet for many of life's activities, this is a much-desired step to ensure greater public notice of government meetings which will hopefully increase citizen participation.

As the Legislature takes meaningful steps to ensure increased transparency of government operations, Citizens Union hopes that the Legislature will further strengthen this provision to require notice be posted on the internet simultaneously with the scheduling of the meeting – at least one week prior to such hearing.

We commend the Senate for taking this step to ensure government is more transparent and recommend that the Legislature promptly pass this legislation. Citizens Union appreciates the opportunity to share its views and would welcome the opportunity to work with the Legislature to create greater public access to meetings and provide for greater openness of government deliberations.