

To:
From: Frank Indovina
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To the Tax Commission c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
- A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

Frank Indovina

San Jose, CA, 95148

To:
From: Shirley Castiglia
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To the Tax Commission c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Shirley Castiglia

Monrovia, CA, 91016

To:
From: Carl Jones
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To the Tax Commission c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

STOP the spending!!!!

When the taxpayer reaches bottom, he/she stops spending and saves whatever to avoid going deeper in debt. But the Government turns to the taxpayer with higher taxes and keep on spending monies they don't have.

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It is time to short change the politicians and their perks, pensions and pay raises. Why should we be responsible for the shortage in your investments?

Sincerely,

Carl Jones

San Jose, CA, 95117

To:
From: John Ryan
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To the Tax Commission c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Our taxes are far too high, and the receipts are generally not wisely spent.
Sincerely,

John Ryan

San Diego, CA, 92108

To:
From: Henry Levin
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To the Tax Commission c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

High taxes will suffocate economy.
Stop to increase taxes, start to cut spending.

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Sincerely,

Henry Levin

Carlsbad, CA, 92010

To:
From: William Hadaya
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

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Sincerely,

William Hadaya

Saratoga, CA, 95070

To:
From: Peggy Dekom
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

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Sincerely,

Peggy Dekom

Chatsworth, CA, 91311

To:
From: Christine Johnson
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

I am writing to you today to express my concern over the proposed tax on professional services now being contemplated. My firm, as are many others, is struggling to keep the doors open at this time. We cannot support more taxes and stay in business.

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Again, I request that you consider supporting our state professionals by voting against the proposed tax on professional services.

Sincerely,

Christine Johnson

Auburn, CA, 95603

To:
From: Eddie Kho, PE
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

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Sincerely,

Eddie Kho, PE

Sacramento, CA, 95827

To:
From: Alan Carlton
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Taxing Engineering and Land Surveying services will just negatively impact an already struggling service sector. The majority of engineering services are being performed for public sector buyers anyway which will be tax exempt netting no additional revenues.

Sincerely,

Alan Carlton

Shingle Springs, CA, 95682

To:
From: John Bowman
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

PRESIDENT REAGAN PROVED THAT CUTTING TAXES, RATHER THAN RAISING THEM, BOOSTED THE ECONOMY AND ACTUALLY INCREASED REVENUE FOR GOVERNMENT!!

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Sincerely,

John Bowman

San Diego, CA, 92111

To:
From: Paul Enneking
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

As a California Engineering Business Owner, I am writing to urge you not to impose a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax (BNRT). Engineering firms are struggling as it is, and a new tax would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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Please do not impose a Business Net Receipts Tax (BNRT).

Sincerely,

Paul Enneking

Granite Bay, CA, 95746

To:

From: Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Bennett

Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

Absolutely the most appalling actions against the PEOPLE of California!

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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I fervently pray that there is one person on this socialist senate, assembly or committee that would ask "Can the PEOPLE even afford additional taxes?" The answer is NO!

The PEOPLE WILL show the non-representative socialists in the house and senate that WE are tired of their tax and spend attitude and will make them have to get a real job for the first time in most of their lives (just not in California, there aren't any jobs).

Sincerely, Stanley Bennett

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Bennett

Galt, CA, 95632

To:
From: Pat Miraglio
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

This has got to stop. We can not continue to spend. You in the legislature must come to your senses or you will be voted out.

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Please do not take this lightly.

Sincerely,

Pat Miraglio

Elk Grove, CA, 95624

To:
From: Callie Riley
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Sincerely,

Callie Riley

Citrus Heights, CA, 95610

To:

From: Mr. & Mrs. Daryl VanderVeen

Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

PLEASE HELP US.

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We need less taxes and less government intervention!

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Daryl VanderVeen

Hanford, CA, 93230

To:
From: Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Adams
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Adams

Riverside, CA, 92504

To:
From: Ada Marie Bull
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Sincerely,

Ada Marie Bull

Sunnyvale, CA, 94086

To:
From: Rebecca Nicholas
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

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Sincerely,

Rebecca Nicholas

Sacramento, CA, 95833

To:
From: Mickey Goodin
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Sincerely, Mickey Goodin

Mickey Goodin

Randsburg, CA, 93554

To:
From: Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Holtz
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

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Sincerely, Stephen Holtz

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Holtz

Heber, CA, 92249

To:
From: Beth Power
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

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"Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business." Please consider voting NO.

Sincerely,

Beth Power

Sacramento, CA, 95829

To:
From: Pamela Manquen
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

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- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

Pamela Manquen

Sunnyvale, CA, 94086

To:
From: Rex Plummer
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
- A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely, Rex S. Plummer

Rex Plummer

San Diego, CA, 92122

To:
From: marion julian
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

marion julian

Rancho Mirage, CA, 92270

To:
From: Shawn Weedon
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

Shawn Weedon

San Diego, CA, 92127

To:
From: William Hughes
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

William Hughes

Redlands, CA, 92373

To:
From: Arthur Smith
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- â€¢ A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
- â€¢ A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
- â€¢ A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now and I know this as I am a California R.C.E. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business."

Sincerely,

Arthur Smith

Sonoma, CA, 95476

To:
From: Thomas Wolfington
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - our Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

I have heard that action is currently being considered to impose a new business sales tax on services in California.

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
- A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business. It would also cause an even more unfair playing field for pricing private sector services against entrenched bureaucratic interests.

Sincerely,

Thomas Wolfington

Ventura, CA, 93004

To:
From: Jim Dickey
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
- A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business. Additional taxation is not the answer in these difficult times.

Sincerely, Jim Dickey

Jim Dickey

Santa Rosa, CA, 95403

To:
From: Tom Blackburn
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone. Most small firms and small business owners that I know are reeling in this economy and many are on the verge of collapse.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
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- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families. We need to trim government, not continue strangling the golden goose.

Sincerely,

Tom Blackburn

Auburn, CA, 95603

To:
From: Oscar Ramirez
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

Sincerely, Oscar M. Ramirez. PE

Oscar Ramirez

Fresno, CA, 93722

To:
From: Catherine Ellis
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

Catherine Ellis

Dublin, CA, 94568

To:
From: Robert LoRusso
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

Robert LoRusso

Sacramento, CA, 95864

To:
From: James E. McDonald
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

James E. McDonald

Newport Beach, CA, 92660

To:
From: Jerry Michael
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

I have always been one of your supporters and hope that during these hard economic times you will help me by defeating any tax increases on my business (RRM Design Group).

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

I ask for your support to defeat any tax burdens on private sector business. Any additional tax could be the straw that breaks the back of many businesses in California.

Sincerely,

Jerry Michael

San Luis Obispo, CA, 93401

To:
From: Domenic Lupo
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business. This is not a solution to the issues, it only serves to create more issues.

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families. Please re-think this idea and remove or revise this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Domenic Lupo

El Cajon, CA, 92019

To:
From: Matthew Vernon
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business."

Sincerely,

Matthew Vernon

Camarillo, CA, 93010

To:
From: Tom Braun
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

Sincerely,

Tom Braun

Yorba Linda, CA, 92886

To:
From: Allison Slozak
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely, Allison Slozak

Allison Slozak

Palmdale, CA, 93550

To:
From: Kimberly Preston
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

Please consider my concerns, which are as follows:

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
Sincerely, Kim Preston

Kimberly Preston
Fortuna, CA, 95540

To:
From: George Andonie
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

George Andonie

Burbank, CA, 91505



September 08, 2009

Mr. Gerald Parksy, Chair
Commission on the 21st Century Economy
State of California Department of Finance
915 L Street, 8th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: New Gas Tax Proposals

Dear Chairman Parksy:

The California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce represents over 720,000 Hispanic-owned businesses through our network of over 65 Hispanic chambers and business associations throughout California. We strongly oppose the so-called "carbon tax" and other increases on fuel taxes the Commission is considering.

Our members are predominantly small businesses, many of which are family-owned and operated. These businesses and the men and women they employ have been hit particularly hard by the state's prolonged recession, with rising costs leading to escalating unemployment among Hispanic workers. The state Employment Development Department reports that California's Latino unemployment rate reached 12.7 percent in July, and that unemployment among Latinos escalated much faster than other groups. As of July 805,000 California Latinos were jobless.

Those jobless workers and their families, as well as the businesses that were forced to lay off workers and are themselves struggling to keep the doors open, can't afford any more new taxes, especially on top of the \$12.5 billion already passed by the Legislature earlier this year. And higher fuel taxes are among the worst that could possibly be imposed on our members.

The California Air Resources Board has concluded that low income households and small businesses experience disproportionately greater harm from increases in fuel prices, since they typically spend more of their budgets on energy. The proposed higher gas taxes before the Commission will deliver an even harsher blow to Hispanic small businesses and families than they will to many others in the state – others who are unlikely to be able to afford the additional burden either.

California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Main Phone: 916.444.2221 • Fax: 916.889.2870 • Email: office@cahcc.com

Doubling the state excise tax on gasoline and diesel fuel will add about \$3 billion to pump prices here in California, and the structural increases built in to that proposal will send them far higher over the years.

The fact that this multi-billion dollar gas tax is framed as a "pollution" tax does not make it any more palatable to our members. If anything, it brings to mind the billions in "pollution" or "carbon" taxes contemplated as an element of AB 32 Implementation, over and above the billions the Tax Commission proposal would cost. Hispanic-owned companies have long been worried that AB 32's higher energy costs will further cripple their businesses and cost more jobs. The Commission's tax proposals, if they are adopted by the Legislature either in whole or in part, could well mean the death knell for yet more small businesses and jobs, especially in the Hispanic community. This applies not only to the "carbon tax," or "pollution tax," but to other schemes that have been mentioned in connection with the Commission's options, including an oil extraction tax. It all adds up to higher prices at the pump, and those higher prices are untenable.

The Commission on the 21st Century Economy was charged with developing recommendations for tax reform and stabilization of California's "boom and bust" revenue cycle. Raising taxes is not "reform," it's an escalation of the "bust" half of the equation. We urge the Commission to reject higher fuel taxes and focus instead on true reform that will encourage the business growth and job creation that are the key to rebuilding California's economy in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,



Joel Ayala
President & CEO

cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Members of the Latino Legislative Caucus

California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Main Phone: 916.444.2221 • Fax: 916.669.2870 • Email: office@cahcc.com

770 L Street • Suite 900 • Sacramento CA 95814 • www.cahcc.com

Angels in Action

LEARNING  CENTER

7998 Old Auburn Road ♦ Citrus Heights, California 95610 ♦ (916) 723-2633 ♦ dpmaddy@surewest.net

September 9, 2009

Mr. Gerald Parsky, Chairman
Commission on the 21st Century Economy
915 L Street, 8th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman Parsky:

Thank you providing an opportunity for the public to comment on proposed changes to state and local tax structures. One proposed change, the introduction of a Business Net Receipts Tax, would in my opinion be particularly troubling for my early childhood education business.

My wife and I own two preschools. We provide education and care for approximately 100 to 150 children, dependent upon economic conditions. We currently employ 26 people. In 2006, during better times, we employed 33 people. Currently, around 40% of our parents receive government-funded subsidies. The payroll expenses and benefits we pay our employees is approximately 60% of revenue.

Any receipts tax, that limits our ability to deduct employee salaries and benefits, will require an increase in the tuition we charge parents of the children we educate. Some may think the additional tax burden would be relatively small (ex., a four percent additional tax on 60% salaries and benefits equals a 2.4% tax on revenue). But would this additional tax be distributed fairly among California's diverse group of service providers?

To know if this new tax is fair, it seems you would need to compare the additional tax that would be charged to preschool parents, versus the additional tax paid by customers receiving financial, accounting, architectural, computer, and other services. The proportional tax burden paid by consumers of these other services may be less than that paid by preschool parents, since the other services utilize expensive machines to assist their employees, which would be deductible.

For example, the financial services industry spent about 48% of revenue on compensation the past ten years, according to a Wall Street analyst. Since financial services firms spend less than 60% of their expenses on employee salaries and benefits, their customers will receive a lower proportional tax increase on their consumption than will preschool parents under the Business Net Receipts Tax (ex., a four percent additional tax on 48% salaries and benefits equals a 1.9% tax on revenue). By comparison, the parent paying for preschool will pay a 25% higher indirect tax than a consumer having an architect design their custom home. It seems if a new tax is introduced, it should not favor consumers of high-end services by allowing them to bear a smaller proportional tax increase than middle class consumers.

Also, those businesses that are able to replace people with machines would be encouraged to do so by the new tax policy. And companies that pass more revenue through to employees, in the form of salaries and benefits, will have to charge relatively higher prices than companies that reduce wages and benefits and instead spend revenue on executive toys and travel.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Don Maddy
Vice President

To:
From: Kent Peterson
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

- A doubling of the state gas tax, costing consumers billions every year;
- A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

Sincerely,

Kent Peterson

Cypress, CA, 90630

To:
From: Jack Timmel
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

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As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

It is time to STOP TAX AND SPEND. We as citizens of this once great state have to live within our means, we have to be responsible for our finances. That means the State should also act responsibly. Do not spend more than you take in. Do not raise our taxes just because you can and because you screwed up

Sincerely,

Jack Timmel

Hesperia, Ca, 92345

To:
From: Tim Downum
Subj: No additional taxes - our economy is bad don't make it worse

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely, Tim Downum

Tim Downum

Fresno, CA, 93711

To:
From: Michael Muelrath
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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- A property tax change that could lead to higher taxes for employers and higher rents for small businesses;
- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

As a small engineering business owner I want to emphasize that new expenses, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would compound an already difficult economic environment and make doing business in California very hard to sustain.

Sincerely,

Michael Muelrath

Napa, CA, 94558

To:
From: Walter Auerbach
Subj: Proposed Taxes on Services

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

As with everything else it seems, the market for engineering and surveying services is crossing all boundaries. Specifically, we compete for local business with firms based in surrounding states where tax and employment laws are less onerous. It would be extremely unfair to impose a taxing requirement on California service businesses that is not consistent with other states. And it will also give additional life to the argument that it is more cost efficient for government employees to perform engineering and surveying services that have been historically contracted to the private sector.

Please don't allow this terrible plan to move forward.
Sincerely, Walter R. Auerbach, P.E.

Walter Auerbach

Tahoe City, CA, 96145

To:
From: Steven Lindgren
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

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- A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Sincerely,

Steven Lindgren

Taft, CA, 93268

To:
From: Janine O'Flaherty
Subj: Any Tax Changes Must Help - NOT HURT - the Economy

To All Commissioners c/o Gerald Parsky, Chair:

California continues to suffer from the worst economic downturn since World War II. Unemployment has hit historic levels and CNBC ranked California 49th out of all states for the cost of doing business, citing our state's tax burden as one of the major causes. And Californians have already seen \$12.5 billion in tax increases this year alone.

Higher taxes are threatening our economic recovery, endangering jobs and the revenue our state needs to function. Yet in spite of this, major changes to California's tax system are under consideration that include:

• A complete overhaul of the business tax structure that remains vaguely defined. The only thing that IS clear is that no one, including its proponents, really knows how it would actually work, who it would hurt or what the final consequences of such a change would be.

• A Business Net Receipts Tax that will put California businesses at a distinct competitive disadvantage compared to firms located in other states.

As the Tax Commission prepares its recommendations for the Legislature, it's critical that both bodies focus on changes that will help businesses grow and create jobs - not increase the tax burden on struggling Californians, whether they are large employers, small businesses or average families.

Engineering and surveying firms are really struggling right now. Imposing a tax on services, such as the Business Net Receipts Tax, would cause even more layoffs and more lost business.

Sincerely,

Janine O'Flaherty

Hillsborough, CA, 94010