

Letters to the Editor

Published Thursday, Aug. 26, 2010

Uncertainty bad for business

Re "Shine light on corporate tax breaks" (Viewpoints, Aug. 21): Discussing California's tax policy decisions, union leader Art Pulaski argues that government "gives away" billions of dollars in the form of tax incentives, including "billions in sales tax deductions."

In other words, by choosing not to apply the sales tax to food, the state "gives away" billions to people who feed their families (\$6 billion in state and local taxes in 2009-10, according to the Department of Finance). By deciding to exempt medicine and prosthetics, the state "gives away" billions to those who need these products to improve their quality of life (\$2.3 billion in 2009-10).

Incentives used by businesses account for less than 10 percent of all tax incentives, but Pulaski focuses his criticism of tax policies on employers, whom he would like to tax at much higher levels. As The Bee reported Aug. 15, our jobs climate already is so bad that many companies are moving jobs to places like Utah.

Di `Ug_]]g`di g\]b[``Y[]g`Uh]cb`h`Uh`k`ci`X`a`U`_`Y`h`]b[g`k`cf`g`Y`Z`c`f`7`U`]Z`c`f`b`]U`^`c`V` \`i` b`h`Y`f`g`V`m`
di`H`j`b[`U`f`V`]f`U`f`m`Y`l`d`]f`U`h`]cb`X`U`h`Y`g`c`b`d`c`]W`Y`g`h`U`h`g`h`a`i` `U`h`Y`Y`a`d`c`m`a`Y`b`h` `9`a`d`c`m`Y`f`g`a`U`_`Y`
 \`]f`b[`U`b`X` `Y`l`d`U`b`g`]cb`X`Y`W`]g`]cb`g`V`U`g`Y`X`c`b` `c`b[!`f`U`b[`Y`d`f`c`Y`W`]cb`g`z`g`c`U`X`X`]b[`i` b`W`f`h`U`]b`o`m`i`c` `h`Y`
 `]g`h`c`Z`7`U`]Z`c`f`b`]U`f`g`h`U`l`d`f`c`V`Y`a`g`]g`U`j`Y`f`m`V`U`X`]X`Y`U`"

É`H`Y`f`Y`g`U`7`U`g`U`n`n`U`ž`

D`f`Y`g`]X`Y`b`h`ž`

7`U`]Z`c`f`b`]U`H`U`l`d`U`m`Y`f`g`5`g`g`c`V`U`h`]cb` ``