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## **State and Local Government Can Improve Efficiencies and Save Billions, California Taxpayers Association Reports**

SACRAMENTO – The California Taxpayers Association released a report today documenting how state and local government can save more than \$3.4 billion by improving efficiencies and reducing fraud.

"For California to succeed, we must make government more efficient," CalTax President Teresa Casazza said. "Too often, policymakers address budget crises simply by cutting department budgets or proposing higher taxes. Instead, we need to look at what government is doing and how we can do it better."

The CalTax Research Bulletin, "[Making Government Work – How California Can Improve Efficiency and Reduce Fraud](#)," uses documents and news articles released in 2010 by the media, government auditors and others that highlight government mismanagement and fraudulent spending.

"Policymakers have the tools to fix what went wrong, but we need a starting point," Casazza said. "If policies are adopted to address the recommendations included in our report, state and local governments will save billions of dollars and operate more effectively."

The report includes 189 cases involving more than \$3.4 billion that government lost due to inefficient spending and fraud. The amount of potential savings is likely much higher, as auditors and the media are not able to uncover every instance of ineffective spending, nor does CalTax compile every news story and audit.

CalTax has reported on state and local government inefficiencies since 1999 and has extensive examples from school districts, transportation districts, law enforcement agencies and other local entities. For a report documenting inefficiencies from 1999 to 2009, [click here](#).

*The [California Taxpayers Association](#) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization founded in 1926 to protect taxpayers from unnecessary taxes and to promote government efficiency.*

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