



**For Immediate Release: August 30, 2010**

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## **California Taxpayers Association President Teresa Casazza Urges Legislature to Open Budget Process to Public Scrutiny**

SACRAMENTO – California Taxpayers Association President Teresa Casazza issued the following statement today regarding the Legislature's plan to vote on budget legislation that has not been made public:

"The Legislature plans to vote on a budget tomorrow, but the budget bills are not yet in print, details have not been provided to the public, and no public testimony will be heard. This process violates all principles of open government, and shuts out Californians from all political parties and all walks of life – the taxpayers, the media, those who receive government services, and the state employees who provide services.

"Lawmakers should not vote on *any* bill without providing language to the people and collecting public input, and they certainly shouldn't use such a secretive process for the budget bill that will affect every man, woman and child in the state.

"A budget that is put together behind closed doors and rushed to a vote on the final day of the regular session does nothing to inspire public confidence in the state government."

*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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