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CAL-TAX RELEASES 2005 LEGISLATIVE VOTING RECORD

The California Taxpayers' Association today released its 2005 legislative voting record on key tax and fiscal public policy issues that impact the state's economy. Cal-Tax, about to celebrate its 80th year of work on behalf of this state's taxpayers, is the oldest advocate in California focusing exclusively on tax and public spending policy. Cal-Tax compiled the voting record in an effort to bring public attention to key legislative votes of interest to taxpayers.

Cal-Tax President Larry McCarthy said, "The purpose of this voting record is to highlight legislators' actions on bills that are important to taxpayers. Those elected to represent us in Sacramento must be accountable for votes on tax and public finance issues that have enormous impacts on our state's economy and ability to compete for investment and jobs."

The report is based on a compilation of the highest priority bills on which Cal-Tax took positions.

This year's voting record has been modified to provide a more comprehensive measure of a legislator's willingness to stand with taxpayers on critical bills. Included are votes taken in tax policy or fiscal committees as many bills do not reach the Senate or Assembly floors.

Included in the tally are legislators who authored or co-authored a bill of importance to Cal-Tax but did not have an opportunity to vote on it themselves. There also are footnotes regarding commendable actions by legislators that could not be reflected in the score. Credit is given to a legislator who abstains from voting on a bill that is opposed by Cal-Tax. As a result of this modified approach, the number of votes by each legislator will vary.

In both the Senate and Assembly, Republican legislators voted with Cal-Tax positions more than 90 percent of the time.

Three Senate Democrats voted with Cal-Tax at least 45 percent of the time. They are Jackie Speier of Hillsborough (67%), Alan Lowenthal of Long Beach (50%) and Kevin Murray of Los Angeles (45%).

In the Assembly, seven Democrats voted with Cal-Tax at least 45 percent of the time. They are Tom Umberg of Santa Ana (100%), Gloria Negrete McLeod of Chino (90%), Carol Liu of La Canada Flintridge (80%), Juan Arambula of Fresno (70%), Joe Canciamilla of Pittsburg (53%), Ronald Calderon of Montebello (50%), and Jerome Horton of Inglewood (45%).

Established in 1926, business-oriented Cal-Tax is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research and advocacy association that guards against unnecessary or excessive taxation and promotes efficient, quality government services.

Click [here](#) for a direct link to the voting record, including a summary of the key bills tallied. It also is available at Cal-Tax Online (www.caltax.org).