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CAL-TAX RELEASES 2006 LEGISLATIVE VOTING RECORD

SACRAMENTO – The California Taxpayers' Association today released its 2006 voting record so Californians can measure how their state legislators acted on major tax and fiscal public policy issues and hold them accountable.

In its 80th year, Cal-Tax is the oldest advocate in California focusing exclusively on tax and public spending policy.

Cal-Tax President Larry McCarthy said: "Members of the Assembly and Senate must be accountable for their votes on bills that impact the California economy and the state's ability to compete for investment and jobs. The cost of government in California, the level of taxation and the operation of the tax system are highly quantifiable measures that businesses evaluate in making decisions on locating operations. These votes should be of critical importance to voters as these members seek reelection."

McCarthy said the voting record shows that the California Legislature has become somewhat less polarized. "It is encouraging to see legislators and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger working together to solve our state's problems," he said.

In both the Senate and Assembly, all Republican legislators voted with Cal-Tax more than 90% of the time. Thirteen Democrats sided with Cal-Tax at least 45% of the time.

In the Senate, three Democratic legislators voted with Cal-Tax (or abstained) at least 50% of the time: They are Mike Machado of Linden (56%), Alan Lowenthal of Long Beach (50%), and Dean Florez of Shafter (50%).

In the Assembly, these 10 Democrats voted with Cal-Tax (or abstained) at least 45% of the time: Gloria Negrete McLeod of Chino (94%), Nicole Parra of Hanford (81%), Tom Umberg of Santa Ana (81%), Joe Canciamilla of Pittsburg (77%), Barbara Matthews of Tracy (53%), Joe Baca of Rialto (50%), Ed Chavez of La Puente (50%), Carol Liu of La Canada Flintridge (50%), Alberto Torrico of Newark (47%) and Ron Calderon of Montebello (45%).

In addition, three Assembly Democrats were at 44% and deserve honorable mention: Juan Arambula of Fresno, Ted Lieu of El Segundo and Lois Wolk of Davis.

This report is not a list of all tax and spending policy bills introduced in the 2005-06 legislative session, but rather a compilation of the highest priority bills on which Cal-Tax positioned. Cal-Tax included in its calculations (1) votes taken in policy or fiscal committees when bills do not reach the Senate or Assembly floors for action; (2) legislators who have authored or co-authored a bill, but did not have a chance to vote on it themselves, and (3) legislators who abstain from voting on a key tax bill. Based on this approach, the number of bills on which legislators are recorded will vary, depending on their committee assignments and authorship.

Click [here](#) to go to the 2006 Cal-Tax Voting Record, including descriptions of the key bills used in this report. It also is available at Cal-Tax Online (www.caltax.org).

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

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