



For Immediate Release:
January 9, 2014

Contact: Beth Miller
Brooke Armour
916-551-1383

Governor's Budget is Prudent, But Only If Legislature Listens

(SACRAMENTO)—Joel Fox, President of the Small Business Action Committee and member of Californians Against Higher Taxes, today issued the following statement in response to the governor's proposed budget:

"The Governor's budget reflects a new economic landscape in the state. With a budget surplus of more than \$4 billion, our schools will receive \$12 billion more in the next fiscal year. Overall, that's incredible progress from the economic challenges we faced just a few years ago and there is no need for politicians to raise taxes.

"Californians pay the highest gas, sales and income taxes in the nation, and yet there are some in the Legislature who continue to push for significant tax increases on everything from oil to soda to tobacco. These taxes would cost the state jobs and set us up to take a dangerous step backwards in our fiscal recovery. If we have enough money for a rainy day fund, we are not in need of more revenue and creating taxes is unnecessary.

"We are encouraged to hear the governor agrees this is not the time for higher taxes. We hope he will use his influence with the Legislature to ensure they focus on what's important—creating jobs and making California a better place to do business so we avoid another fiscal crisis."

Governor Brown today released his 2014-15 budget. While it contains spending increases for almost every state agency, it also includes money for a rainy-day fund and calls for fiscal restraint.