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What They Are Saying: Top Business and Tax Advocates Unanimously Oppose New Oil Severance Tax

(SACRAMENTO)—Business and tax advocates today unanimously opposed SB 1017 (Evans), which will impose a 9.5 percent tax on oil and natural gas and create another unaccountable bureaucracy.

Now is not the time for new taxes.

“We just raised taxes by \$5 billion a year in California and we now have a budget surplus. Now is not the time to add another new tax that will be passed on to California consumers in higher prices for gas and for good and services we use every day,” **Teresa Casazza, President, California Taxpayers Association.**

“Californians are already struggling with the highest sales, income and gas taxes in the country, so Governor Brown is right to tell legislators that now is not the time for new taxes. Now is the time to get small businesses, the economy and jobs back on track to recovery,” **John Kabateck, Executive Director, National Federation of Independent Business/CA.**

SB 1017 is a job killer.

“To create a new tax on oil only extracted in California will drive up the price of California oil which constitutes about 40% of the California gasoline market. California’s robust oil industry will be at a competitive disadvantage. This new tax will kill jobs and hurt local tax revenues,” **Allan Zarembeg, President and CEO, California Chamber of Commerce.**

“Sen. Evans’ new tax on California oil moves us in the wrong direction, increasing costs for consumers and employers, hurting jobs and making us more dependent on foreign oil. Stopping this new tax would send a message that California is serious about attracting jobs and investment in the state,” **Dorothy Rothrock, Vice President of Government Relations, California Manufacturers & Technology Association.**