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With Billions in Surplus Tax Revenues, No Justification to Increase Taxes

California's \$13.8 billion income tax collections in April exceeded Governor Brown's revenue estimate for the month by more than \$1.6 billion. According to information released by the state on Friday, the higher-than-projected revenue is in addition to the \$1.5 billion in excess revenue the state collected through March.

Teresa Casazza, president of the California Taxpayers Association and co-chair of Californians Against Higher Taxes (CAHT), released the following statement today regarding calls to extend or increase taxes even as the state experiences a growing surplus of taxpayer dollars:

"The state's income tax revenue for the year is now more than \$8 billion higher than it was at this time during the prior fiscal year, so there is simply no justification for any effort to increase taxes on hardworking Californians. With the state collecting billions in unanticipated surplus revenue, and the controller reporting that all three major sources of state revenue are coming in higher than expected, there is ample money to fund vital government programs like education. The Legislature should not be asking Californians to pay higher taxes when the state is flush with cash."