



# AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

July 12, 2017

To: Members of the California Assembly

From: Americans for Tax Reform

Re: AB 398/Cap-And-Trade Extension

Dear Representative,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and our supporters across California, I urge you to vote NO on AB 398, legislation that would extend the state's cap-and-trade program until 2030. By stopping an extension of this misguided and ineffective program, you can protect your constituents from increased costs for food, electricity, clothing, and other goods and services.

The state's cap-and-trade program imposes a de facto tax on businesses that is passed along to consumers in the form of higher prices. Your constituents already contend with one of the highest tax burdens in the nation, were hit with a massive gas tax increase earlier this year, which was piled on top of the 20 federal Obamacare tax hikes imposed on Californians over the last 8 years. You can provide much needed relief to individuals, families, and employers across the Golden State by halting Gov. Brown's effort to extend cap-and-trade and the effective tax increase it will impose on your constituents.

Extending cap-and-trade will siphon billions of dollars from the private sector, reducing the job-creating capacity of in-state employers and diminish family bank accounts. For all that pain, there will be no gain, as this heavy-handed program will have no noticeable impact on global temperatures.

California already has one of the nation's most inhospitable tax climates, which has chased thousands of people and businesses out of the state in recent years. I urge you to avoid making matters worse by keeping the economically damaging and environmentally ineffective cap-and-trade program in place for another decade. ATR will be educating your constituents and all California taxpayers as to how lawmakers in Sacramento vote on this important matter. Please look to ATR to as a resource on tax, budget, and other policy matters pending before you. If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Gleason, ATR's director of state affairs, at (202) 785-0266 or [pgleason@atr.org](mailto:pgleason@atr.org).

Sincerely,

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