## Commission Tax Proposal September 29, 2009

## Commission Proposal

- Increases tax revenue stability and reliability
- Promotes long-term economic prosperity and competitiveness
- Reduces complexity of tax system and individual taxes
- Retains fairness of existing tax system


## Reduces Volatility

- Revenues have been more volatile than the economy.
- Volatility has been increasing over time.
- The Commission's tax proposal would greatly reduce volatility.
- The system would result in a decline in volatility of over 40\%.
-The structure would have substantially cushioned recent budget reductions


## Tax Proposal Would Reduce Volatility



# Promote Long-Term Economic Prosperity 

- Eliminating the corporate tax and reducing personal income tax rates encourages investment and improves efficiency
- Broadening the tax base improves efficiency and neutrality
- Eliminating the state sales tax reduces taxes on business inputs and "double taxation"


## Improve California's Competitiveness

- California's income, corporate, and sales tax rates are among the highest in the country
- Commission's recommendations would reduce or eliminate these taxes:
- Maximum personal income tax rate would be reduced from 9.3\% to 6.5\% (not including 1\%)
- Corporate tax would be eliminated
- State 5\% general purpose sales tax rate would be eliminated
- A broad based tax at a low rate would replace the revenues


# Comparison of State Marginal Tax Rates 

## Western States

## Income Tax

## Arizona

California
Colorado
Nevada
Oregon
Utah
Washington
4.5\%
10.3\%
4.6\%
no tax
9.0\%
5.0\%
no tax

Corporate Tax

| $7.0 \%$ | $5.6 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{8 . 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 . 3 \%}$ |
| $4.6 \%$ | $2.9 \%$ |
| no tax | $6.5 \%$ |
| $6.6 \%$ | no tax |
| $5.0 \%$ | $4.7 \%$ |
| gross receipts | $6.5 \%$ |

5.6\%
7.3\%
.9\%
no tax
4.7\%
6.5\%

Large States

| California | $\mathbf{1 0 . 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{8 . 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 . 3 \%}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Illinois | $3.0 \%$ | $7.3 \%$ | $6.3 \%$ |
| Maryland | $5.5 \%$ | $8.3 \%$ | $6.0 \%$ |
| Massachusetts | $5.3 \%$ | $9.5 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ |
| Minnesota | $7.9 \%$ | $9.8 \%$ | $6.5 \%$ |
| New Jersey | $9.0 \%$ | $9.0 \%$ | $7.0 \%$ |
| New York | $6.9 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ |
| Ohio | $6.2 \%$ | $8.5 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ |
| Pennsylvania | $3.1 \%$ | $10.0 \%$ | $6.0 \%$ |
| Texas | no tax | gross receipts | $6.3 \%$ |

Notes: Effective March 2009. In April 2009 California temporarily increased its statewide sales tax rate to $8.25 \%$ and its maximum personal income tax rate to $10.55 \%$. Sales taxrate includes statewide state and local.

## Simplicity

- Personal income tax simplified
- Reduces the number of income tax deductions to three
- Reduces the number of tax rates from six to two
- Corporate tax would be eliminated


## Fairness

- Retains "ability to pay" for the personal income tax
- Taxes business base on "benefits principle"
- Decrease in tax burden on Californians


## Change in Tax Burden by Income Class (In billions of \$)



## Personal Income Tax Change by AGI Class

| Personal Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2014 Tax Year |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Number of Returns | Current Law Tax | Difference | Percent Difference | Current LawTax per Return | Diff per Return |
| AGI Bracket |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 - | 20,000 | 4,655,787 | 16,269,745 | -16,269,745 | -100.0\% | \$3 | (\$3) |
| 20,000 - | 50,000 | 5,511,843 | 1,077,735,430 | -16,235,184 | -1.5\% | \$196 | (\$3) |
| 50,000 - | 75,000 | 1,786,925 | 2,302,534,219 | -333,798,329 | -14.5\% | \$1,289 | (\$187) |
| 75,000 - | 100,000 | 1,287,551 | 3,902,263,960 | -1,165,422,188 | -29.9\% | \$3,031 | (\$905) |
| 100,000 - | 200,000 | 2,597,114 | 19,372,380,804 | -5,904,723,901 | -30.5\% | \$7,459 | (\$2,274) |
| 200,000 - | 1,000,000 | 461,319 | 12,409,483,082 | -3,451,967,693 | -27.8\% | \$26,900 | $(\$ 7,483)$ |
| 1,000,000 - | and up | 37,201 | 12,924,255,886 | -4,065,680,151 | -31.5\% | \$347,421 | $(\$ 109,291)$ |
| Total |  | 16,337,738 | 52,004,923,125 | -14,954,097,192 | -28.8\% | \$3,183 | (\$915) |

Note: Distribution for residents only; includes Mental Health Services Tax.
Commission on the $21^{\text {sT }}$ Century Economy

