

# FAMILIES FIRST

## SHUT DOWN CORPORATE TAX GIVEAWAYS

### A Matter of Priorities.

California is facing a record-breaking budget shortfall and legislators need to make some tough decisions about how to move the state forward. **Some decisions though, shouldn't be that tough.**



Each year, California gives away more than \$50 billion in tax breaks to individuals and wealthy corporations. If we close just some of these tax loopholes, we can protect public safety and maintain lifesaving programs for some of the state's most vulnerable residents. The decision to keep these loopholes open and make cuts instead isn't inevitable. **It's a conscious choice, and voters should know whose interests their legislators are defending. The choices are up to them:**

**Legislators can completely eliminate CalWORKS,** the state's successful welfare-to-work program that helps support families as they get training and get back to work. *State savings: \$1.3 billion*

**OR**

**They could close the "research and development" tax break for corporations,** milked by drug companies who spend the millions they save in taxes on lobbying to keep drug prices higher. *State savings: \$1.3 billion*

**Legislators can completely eliminate Calgrants,** which help make college a reality for low-income California students and help train our next generation of workers. *State savings: \$173 million*

**OR**

**They can close the loophole that lets wealthy corporations and individuals dodge taxes on their real estate deals.** *State savings: \$174 million*

**Legislators can eliminate assistance for victims of domestic violence AND wipe out mental health services** for special education students. *State savings: \$72 million*

**OR**

**They can put an end to the loophole that benefits high-rolling technology companies** by excluding high-end computer programs from the sales tax. *State savings: \$74 million*

**Legislators can risk public safety and private property by laying-off 1,700 firefighters from CAL FIRE,** the state's last line of defense against major fire disasters. *State savings: \$118 million*

**OR**

**They can close the giveaway that lets 138,000 companies a year avoid paying even the minimum corporate tax of \$800 a year.** *State savings: \$123 million*

**Legislators can stop funding state parks,** closing them to the public and endangering wildlife, historic treasures, and public lands **AND virtually eliminate in-home supportive services for the elderly and disabled,** potentially sending tens of thousands of patients to nursing homes unnecessarily. *State savings: \$684 million*

**OR**

**They can get rid of the tax loophole that lets giant multinational corporations shelter their profits in offshore tax havens** like the Cayman Islands. *State savings: \$700 million*

**Legislators can eliminate the Healthy Families program,** leaving 900,000 kids uninsured **AND take funding away from services for the seriously mentally ill AND cut off access to life-saving medication for low-income HIV/AIDS patients.** *State savings: \$513 million*

**OR**

**They can end the loophole that subsidizes Wal-Mart's low-wage, no-benefit jobs** through the enterprise zone program, which non-partisan analysts have consistently said provides no economic value. *State savings: \$497 million*

**Don't let Sacramento politicians claim there are no alternatives to cuts.**

Closing corporate tax loopholes can save some of the state's most important programs. It's all a matter of priorities.

For more information: [www.workingcalifornia.org](http://www.workingcalifornia.org)