

# SAVE OUR JOBS

## STOP the OIL TAX

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*The following statement was released today by Michael Turnipseed, president of the Kern County Taxpayers Association as proponents of a new oil severance tax joined others for the start of their "March for California's Future." To contact Turnipseed, please call (661) 322-2973.*

"It is ironic that this march is beginning in Bakersfield, ground zero for the job losses that would be forced by a new tax on oil production being promoted by those sponsoring the march. The oil severance tax would cost more than 9,000 Californians their jobs, the vast majority of those in Kern County.

"Such a tax would also hit the county's budget hard by driving down the property taxes paid by oil producers by millions of dollars, a loss which would hit local school districts hardest. A new oil severance tax would also push fuel prices higher and increase our dependence on foreign oil.

"We are all acutely aware of the state's budget difficulties, but we don't believe such issues are solved by putting thousands of Californians out of work. We need more jobs, not higher taxes, to drive the economic recovery that will ultimately provide the stable, healthy revenue stream California needs to fund education and other state services. We urge the marchers to drop support for an oil severance tax."

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