



REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY  
HONORABLE FRED M. WHITAKER, CHAIRMAN

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July 24, 2017

California Assembly Republican Leader Chad Mayes  
State Capitol, Suite 3104  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Dear Assembly Republican Leader Mayes,

The California Legislature's decision to extend Governor Jerry Brown's "Cap and Trade" program was a disaster. Cap and Trade negatively impacts our economy today, and as a result of your vote, an enormous financial burden on poor and middle class families is perpetuated. The harm of the Cap and Trade extension can't be understated. It will continue to drive small businesses from our state at a greater speed and in larger numbers, while increasing costs for those that can least afford it. In my written appeal to you last week imploring opposition to the legislation, I shared the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association's warning that the Cap and Trade extension would raise fuel prices by 21 cents per gallon come 2022 and by 71 cents per gallon come 2030 - this is in addition to the 19 cents per gallon hike rammed through by the Democrats in April. Cap and Trade also artificially increases the costs of electrical generation, and all products that use fuel or electricity in the creation of their products or services. California simply can't afford Cap and Trade.

I have the deepest respect for you, and have enjoyed our conversations on how we win back California for the GOP. Yet, the vote you and six other Republicans took, is 180 degrees away from the principles I thought we shared. One of your mandates as Assembly Republican Leader is to elect more Republicans to the Assembly, but your support for Cap and Trade makes it significantly more challenging for us to take back Assembly District 65. GOP support for this legislation allowed Democrat Sharon Quirk-Silva to vote against it, and issue a press release standing up for the economic interests of the voters in her district. You gave an incumbent Democrat in a swing seat you are supposed to be targeting, a free pass to act more Republican than our leadership.

After long and careful thought, I respectfully ask you to resign your position as Assembly Republican Leader immediately and allow another Republican to lead. The California Republican Party must continue working toward regaining the political momentum – but it can't do so if its leaders back the same policies that Democrats support. You cannot be the leader when the grassroots needed to elect more legislators will not follow you.

Sincerely,

Hon. Fred M. Whitaker  
Chairman  
Republican Party of Orange County

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1422 EDINGER AVENUE, SUITE 110, TUSTIN, CA 92780  
(714) 453-0900 | WWW.OCGOP.ORG

# The Republican Party of San Diego County

Tony Krvaric, Chairman

July 25, 2017

California Assembly Republican Leader Chad Mayes  
State Capitol, Suite 3104  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Dear Assembly Republican Leader Mayes,

The California Legislature's decision to extend Governor Jerry Brown's "Cap and Trade" program was a disaster. Cap and Trade negatively impacts our economy today, and because of the deal you cut – and subsequent votes you delivered – an enormous financial burden on poor and middle-class families is perpetuated. The harm can't be understated as it continues to drive small businesses from our state – while increasing costs for those that can least afford it.

It's not only bad policy, as the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association pointed out, raising fuel prices by 21 cents per gallon come 2022 and by 71 cents come 2030 – in addition to the 19 cents per gallon hike rammed through by the Democrats in April, which we all rallied against.

It's also bad strategically, as Republicans now risk owning this terrible policy. What case do we make to Californians to vote for our candidates? Oh, and Democrats in seats that we hope to win, like Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva, got to take a pass and vote No, giving her a fig-leaf to pretend she's a champion for taxpayers.

Finally, the tens of thousands of Republican grass-roots activists which make up our volunteer organizations, local county central committees, and state party committee feel betrayed. Moves like yours make it seem as if their support is taken for granted while deals are cut in back rooms, resulting in awkward photos with the Governor, and (fleeting) praise from the establishment.

While Republicans come in all flavors, and certainly not everyone agrees on every policy issue, the ONE thing voters should be able to count on is that Republicans will NOT raise their taxes.

While I realize that the choice of Leader rests with Republican Assemblymembers, it is with a heavy heart that I respectfully ask you to resign your position as Assembly Republican Leader immediately and allow another Republican caucus member the opportunity to lead.

Our Party must work hard to make its case to California voters by drawing bold contrasts – and proposing better policies – but it can't do so if its leaders back the same policies as Democrats.

Sincerely,



Tony Krvaric  
CHAIRMAN (volunteer)  
Republican Party of San Diego County