

June 6, 2025

The Honorable Sade Elhawary
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: Opposition to AB 681 – California DREAM Loan Program Expansion

Dear Assemblymember Elhawary,

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Taxpayers Association (LATax), I am writing to express our **strong opposition** to AB 681, which would significantly expand loan limits under the California DREAM Loan Program for individuals who immigrated to the country illegally and are now pursuing graduate degrees.

This proposal is fiscally irresponsible given the current state of California's budget. The **Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO)** has projected a **\$22 billion deficit** for the upcoming budget cycle and **cumulative shortfalls of \$73 billion** over the next three years. Governor Newsom has acknowledged the need to rein in spending, recently announcing a freeze on new Medi-Cal enrollment for undocumented immigrants due to a **\$6 billion cost overrun** in health and human services. A recent POLITICO-UC Berkeley Citrin Center survey conducted in April confirmed strong majorities of Californians support these Medi-Cal cut. However, this bill is a step in the opposite direction.

LA County taxpayers are already facing some of the highest costs of living in the nation—with **gas prices often exceeding \$5 per gallon, housing costs among the highest in the U.S., and a state tax burden that continues to grow**. Taxpayers expect lawmakers to prioritize essential functions while reining in spending — the same way working families must live within their means and make hard choices when necessary.

AB 681 may be well-intentioned, but it is **deeply out of step with current fiscal realities** and with the expectations of hardworking Californians who are watching the state's financial situation deteriorate.

For these reasons, the Los Angeles County Taxpayers Association respectfully urges legislators to reject AB 681.



CENTRAL VALLEY
TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION



Sutter Yuba Taxpayers Association



Sincerely,



Aidan Chao
Chairman
Los Angeles County Taxpayers Association



Tom Hudson
President
California Taxpayer Protection Committee
Placer County Taxpayers Association



Jesse Rojas
Policy Director
Central Valley Taxpayers Association



Richard Rider
Chairman
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Ourania Riddle
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Solano County Taxpayers Association

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