

## Did You Know?

An estimated \$8 billion in owed corporate, personal, and sales and use taxes goes uncollected in California each year.

### It hurts everyone!

- ◆ Tax revenues supporting California's services are lost.
- ◆ Workers are forced to go without basic employment protections.
- ◆ Legitimate businesses are confronted with unfair competition.
- ◆ It allows human traffickers to operate and victimize individuals trapped in forced labor conditions.

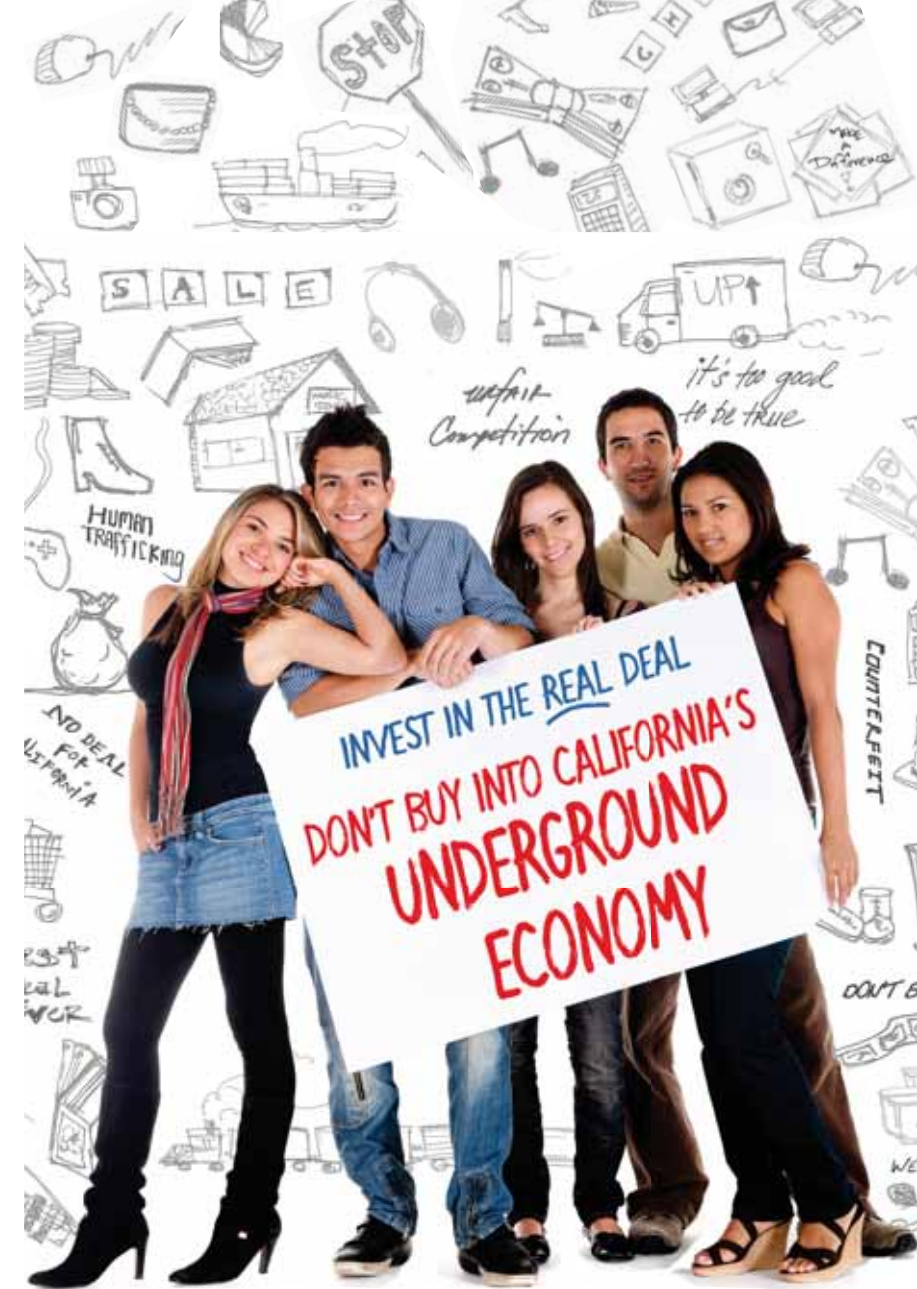


## What Can I Do to Be Part of the Solution?

- ◆ Don't buy counterfeit products.
- ◆ Don't pay for work "under the table."
- ◆ Pay your taxes.
- ◆ Recognize signs of human trafficking.
- ◆ Ask questions.

**Anonymously** report tax evasion, fraud, and counterfeit products

- 888-334-3300
- [www.boe.ca.gov/info/icomplaint.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/icomplaint.htm)



## What is the Underground Economy?

The underground economy refers to people who steal, make counterfeit products, use victims of human trafficking, and hide what they owe in taxes.



Frequently, businesses that deal in cash and use other schemes to conceal their activities, identities, and their tax liabilities are working in the underground economy.

It offers an unfair and illegal advantage to those who do not comply with California's tax laws. It may even affect a business or someone you know.

## Why Should I Care?

The underground economy impacts all Californians. The people who operate in the underground economy are taking money out of your pocket.



When you buy a knock-off purse, it affects designers, and ultimately steals their ideas.



When you buy a pirated DVD, it hurts actors and other jobs on a movie set.



When you buy black-market drugs, it damages your health.



When you pay for services "under the table" it may be supporting human trafficking.

By not operating legitimately, there is less money to support:

- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Social Services
- ◆ Public Safety
- ◆ Parks
- ◆ Hospitals
- ◆ Roads
- ◆ Our Economy

## Invest in the Real Deal!

**Be alert**—Ask questions about the businesses with which you are working.

**Be aware**—Know that paying under the table is not a better deal.

**Be informed**—Buy only products that are legitimate, not counterfeit.

**Know the difference**—If a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

Be the solution!

For more information, go to [www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)



**It's no deal for California.**

**It's no deal for you.**

**Be the solution!**