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## **New Year, New Tax Rules:** ***How to Pick the Right Tax Professional to Help You Navigate*** ***California's Ever-Changing Tax Codes***

Sacramento, CA – The California Society of Enrolled Agents (CSEA), with 4,200 federally licensed tax professionals, is offering Californians guidance when picking a specialist to assist them with tax planning, preparation and representation for the 2010 calendar year.

“There is a lot of confusion surrounding how to best file your taxes for 2010, especially this year in light of our changing economy, and so many changing tax rules,” said Gary Anspach, EA, Chair, Legislative Affairs Committee. “With all the changes happening in the state Legislature and Congress, it is more critical than ever to have a qualified tax specialist on your side when preparing your tax and financial strategy.”

Enrolled Agents are the only representatives for taxpayers who receive that right from the federal government rather than from individual states. Unlike CPAs or attorneys, Enrolled Agents *specialize* in taxation. They don't simply “do taxes” from January through April; throughout the year, they advise and represent their clients on all matters of taxation.

“The 4,200 tax professionals who belong to CSEA prepare about 2,000,000 tax returns each year,” said Catherine A. Apker, Executive Vice President. “And each Enrolled Agent must maintain an annual schedule of professional education in the field of taxation, making them the most qualified to help Californians.”

“There were many significant tax changes in 2010 resulting from federal legislation passed during the year,” continued Apker. “Many provisions are extensions that ended and others have timing and other changes. Due to some of the recent laws enacted, it is difficult to track changes and the differences between California and federal law continue to mount. Member Enrolled Agents can help you to best navigate these significant new changes.”

If you have questions about sales tax deduction for vehicle purchase, education credits and deductions, alternative minimum tax relief, or tax breaks for the unemployed, your Enrolled Agent can assist you in ensuring that you do not pay too much, and help you minimize your risk of an audit.

Visit [www.CSEA.org](http://www.CSEA.org) or call (800) 777-2732 to find an Enrolled Agent near you.