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Chiang Provides Free Tax Assistance

SACRAMENTO – State Controller John Chiang today announced that staff from his Los Angeles office will provide free income tax assistance to low- and moderate-income taxpayers through the course of the 2008 filing season.

“My office will provide professional service at no charge to taxpayers who cannot afford to hire tax preparers and need assistance,” said Controller John Chiang. “We will also examine each taxpayer’s eligibility for refunds and other tax credits – often worth thousands of dollars. Those resources can make a huge impact on any family’s bottom line.”

The Internal Revenue Service estimates that in 2006 nearly 460,000 low-income families in California missed out on \$850 million in tax credits under the federal Earned Income Tax Credit program. The credit currently refunds up to \$4,716 dollars for working families that earn less than \$39,783 a year.

Los Angeles taxpayers can receive free help from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Controller’s Office at 777 South Figueroa Street, Suite 4800. Please call (213) 833-6010 to schedule an appointment and receive more information.

The Controller’s Sacramento office will begin offering free tax assistance in February. For more information on dates and times, please call (916) 445-2636.

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