

# Save the Williamson Act

## A Coalition Committed to Protecting the California Land Conservation Act

### ***What people are saying about the Williamson Act ...***

“The Williamson Act, a linchpin in preserving California's open space and farmland, is on life support. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Legislature must step up and revive it.”

-The Sacramento Bee

“For 40 years, the program has meant that Marin County hills, Sonoma County pastures and Contra Costa County vistas are dotted with crops or cows, not subdivisions.”

-The San Francisco Chronicle

“The Williamson Act stands on its own merits. Without it, the temptations are great to sell land for the next strip mall or housing tract -- and that lure will become more lucrative as the economy rebounds. Once land is developed, there's no turning back. California's budget hell is claiming a lot of victims. It would be a shame if this forward-looking and cost-effective law were another.”

-The Merced Star

“Eliminating the entire Williamson Act subventions is the first step towards irreversibly devastating the broadest based agricultural conservation program in California and paving the way for more leapfrog development.”

-Green California

“The Williamson Act is an important component in providing a favorable business climate where farmers and ranchers can continue to produce food for our state, our nation and the world. It also helps protect the environment and provides open space.”

-California Farm Bureau

"I look at it as giving farmers the ability to stay in business, especially when you talk about people who purchased land at a high price. From a county perspective, it seems to be the single greatest tool to stop development and preserve the land."

-Stanislaus Supervisor Vito Chiesa

“This measure really is critical to agriculture in California. Keeping land in agricultural use has been very difficult and very costly for us,”

-Senator Lois Wolk

4/9/2010