The gig economy is described by Investopedia.com as "a labor market characterized by the prevalence of short-term contracts or freelance work as opposed to permanent jobs."

And in California, the gig economy is also a reflection of a deeper economic problem. Many have accepted the gig economy as the norm after the "Golden" State lost its luster. Home affordability, low wages and lack of benefits are the challenges gig workers face. I suspect many have given up on the dreams of prosperity and have just settled.



A 2016 study shows 13,000 businesses left California in the nine previous years. 275,000 California jobs were lost. Large companies have fled California's hostile business environment for business-friendly states. Lack of good-paying careers jobs California are sparse.



Those that participate in the gig economy are paying the price for the short-sided view of politicians and special interest groups. A progressive agenda in the state capitol drive job-killing regulations.

There are 61 democrats and 18 republicans in the State Assembly and 29 democrats and 11 republicans in the State Senate. Democrats rule with a progressive

fist, pushing their self-serving agenda at the expense of taxpayers, public safety and a waning economy. If the revenue-hungry, tax-and-spend California politicians were smart, they would see their tax base dwindling and cultivate an economic environment that would attract wealth producers and new taxpaying workers to bolster state coffers.

One must ask. Shouldn't California citizens expect more? It is no secret what drives the lives of those around us. It starts with their pocketbooks. Those I talk to want the best for themselves and families. They want prosperity. They want career jobs to buy that first home, send kids to college and buy the best a sustaining wage can provides. The gig economy doesn't cut it.



So how do we fix it? The straight-forward answer is to stop the 40- year, one-party rule in the state legislature and restore balance to the lop-sided power structure in the State Legislature.

While the nation reaps the benefits of our current economic boom, I fear California has been is left behind.

The fate of working Californians lies in the hands of informed voters.

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