Pro-Kamala Harris Tech Titan Admits Democrats Destroyed California



California's decline has grown so stark that even steadfast Democratic allies can no longer deny the truth: the state's extreme left-wing policies have plunged it into chaos.

Aaron Levie, founder and CEO of Box, has joined the chorus of voices condemning the Democratic Party's mismanagement of California, asserting that the party's entire political apparatus demands a complete overhaul. Levie, who <u>endorsed</u> Vice President Kamala Harris in the 2024 presidential election, made the pointed remarks during an interview with co-founder and former Lattice CEO, Jack Altman.

"We live in California. It should be like the greatest place on Earth on every dimension. How do you beat this weather? You've completely created the atmosphere of every major tech company," Levie explained. You have Stanford, Berkeley, Caltech. You have institutions and all the venture capital. You're sitting on this incredible asset and then literally you can't make it affordable to live here. That's just insane."

.<u>@levie</u> to <u>@jaltma</u>: Democrats Are To Blame For California's 'Insane' Affordability Crisis

"We live in California. It should be like the greatest place on Earth on every dimension. How do you beat this weather? You've completely created the atmosphere of every major tech... <u>pic.twitter.com/WYPgRAjCVt</u>

— Josh Caplan (@joshdcaplan) March 25, 2025

"That's totally insane and that is 100% due to the bureaucracy of our state. That's basically a Democrat problem," the Box CEO added. "Democrats can't out message that with their policy views because their policy views are in many cases just the wrong policy views. You actually just have to build and you have to create an environment where you can build things."

Levie concluded his critique by urging a "reset" for the Democrats.

California's affordability crisis has reached a critical juncture, with soaring housing costs, stagnant wages, and rising living expenses pushing many residents to the brink.

In major cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco, median home prices have skyrocketed beyond \$1 million—<u>Redfin</u> reports \$1.35 million in San Francisco and \$1.05 million in Los Angeles as of February 2025—far outpacing the national average of \$371,200 according to <u>Zillow</u>, while rents consume a disproportionate share of income for working families, with the <u>California Budget and Policy Center</u> noting over 50% of renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing.

Coupled with high taxes (the <u>Tax Foundation</u> pegs California's tax burden at 11.5% of income in 2025), steep utility rates (<u>CPUC</u> data shows electricity at 30 cents per kWh), and grocery prices outstripping inflation (a <u>USDA</u> report cites a 19% rise since 2020), the state has become a challenging place for all but the wealthiest to thrive.

This economic squeeze has fueled an exodus of middle- and low-income households—the <u>U.S.</u> <u>Census Bureau</u> recorded a net loss of 500,000 residents from 2020–2024—exacerbating labor shortages and straining local economies, as the <u>Public Policy Institute of California</u> highlights in its 2025 labor market analysis.

Levie's sober talk about the Democrats aligns with growing voter dissatisfaction, as many within the party are unhappy with it's direction since President Donald Trump's reelection to the White House.

A plurality of voters (40%) believe the Democratic Party has no clear strategy for countering Trump, according to a survey by the liberal firm Blueprint, first reported by <u>POLITICO</u>. Another 24% said the party does have an ineffective plan.

If only Californians could convince their <u>governor-turned-podcaster</u> Gavin Newsom to do something about it.