

California one of the most unfriendly states for small businesses

By Tiffany Hsu, Los Angeles Times

How do we appropriately express just how unpopular California has become with businesses? It's like Brussels sprouts to a kid, John Travolta among masseurs, the Clippers in Memphis ... you get the idea.

The latest Golden State basher? A survey of more than 6,000 small businesses from Thumbtack.com and the nonprofit Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, which gave California (along with Hawaii, Vermont and Rhode Island) an F grade for friendliness.

Idaho, Texas, Oklahoma and Utah scored A-pluses. Three of the top five ranked cities are in Texas: Dallas-Fort Worth, San Antonio and Austin. Four of the five cities in California – Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and Sacramento – have D grades or lower.

Among the 50 states, California's growth rate and current economic health was ranked 41st; the level of optimism about the future was 35th.

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