

# CTA Call for Action

5 February 2009

***Urgent: Call 1-800-294-9811 Now!***

*Call US Senators Today To Oppose Nelson-Collins Amendment*

It's vital to contact California's two U.S. **Senators right away** and urge them to VOTE NO on an amendment being offered by Senators Nelson (D-FL) and Collins (R-ME) to the federal economic recovery package. This amendment would drastically reduce the education funding in the package.

The amendment would **cut one-half of the funds allocated for:**

- **The State Stabilization Fund (\$39 billion)** – the flexible funds going through state funding formulas to local districts
- **Special education/IDEA (\$6.8 billion)**
- **Title I (\$6.5 billion)**
- **Head Start (\$1 billion)**
- **Teacher Quality grants (\$50 million)**

*Talking Points:*

- Vote NO on the Nelson-Collins amendment.
- This is a very important issue, and educators are watching how Senators vote very closely.
- Investments in education offer an effective approach to stimulating the economy, saving and creating jobs, and shoring up distressed communities.
- Education funding reaches every community in the nation and is targeted to those areas with the greatest needs.
- This amendment would significantly reduce funding allocated to these essential purposes, thereby undermining the package's ability to create and save jobs and help struggling communities.
- The proposed cuts will seriously undermine the intent of the economic recovery package, which was to take pressure off state budgets stretched to their limits and infuse critically needed resources immediately into local communities.

*CTA Asks You to Call Your U.S. Senators NOW!*

**Call the Congressional Hotline at 1-800-294-9811. You will be connected to US Senators Boxer and Feinstein.**

*Remember to tell these Senators how cuts are hurting your students – tell your stories!*

*For more information or to give us feedback on your lawmakers' responses, write [budgetadvocates@cta.org](mailto:budgetadvocates@cta.org).*



**Remember: Use CTA's Congressional Hotline – 1-800-294-9811**

**CTA Legislative Relations, 1118 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95814**