

LegAlert



21 June 2010



Protect School Funding

Urge Senate to Adopt Assembly's Jobs & Education Budget

Urge the California State Senate to adopt the Assembly Budget plan – “the Jobs and Education Budget.” Under the Assembly proposal, education and other critical children’s services would not suffer any additional cuts. In fact, public schools would receive nearly \$6 billion more in vital education funding than Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s May Revision would provide. The Assembly budget proposal increases revenues, honors the commitment made less than a year ago by the governor and the Legislature to California’s students, and does not suspend or manipulate the Proposition 98 Constitutional funding guarantee. The governor’s proposal would cut another \$4.1 billion from schools, on top of the \$17 billion already sliced away. The Assembly plan would also increase funding for the CSU by \$365 million without enacting draconian cuts to basic state services and K-12 education.

Background

Assembly Speaker John Perez on May 25, CTA Presidents Lobby Day, unveiled a new Assembly Jobs and Education Budget that included \$5.9 billion in funding more than the governor’s May Revision. While the Senate’s budget version also contains more school funding than the governor’s, it falls far short of the amounts in the Assembly version.

Currently, the members of a joint conference committee on the budget are deliberating over each provision of the separate Assembly and Senate versions. They will seek to forge a compromise measure, and educators’ speaking up to members of the entire Senate can help ensure that the Assembly’s funding proposal to public schools is incorporated into the final spending plan. That’s why it’s vital for school supporters to contact their state Senator to urge her/him to support the

Assembly’s education investment plan.

Page 2 of this Alert contains the names and contact information for the joint house budget conference committee, which is chaired by Sen. Denise Moreno Ducheny (D-San Diego).

When this committee finishes its budget draft, the plan will go back to both houses of the legislature for action and then to the governor for his approval. Lawmakers have already missed the June 15 constitutional deadline for sending a measure to the governor.

CTA Coordinators: Contact Lawmakers

Get in touch with your state Senator and the members of the joint conference committee on the budget. Mobilize your colleagues, friends, family members, and school supporters to do the same.

√ *Urge your Senator to support the Assembly’s Jobs and Education Budget as it protects schools and colleges from additional budget cuts, boosts education funding by \$5.9 billion over the governor’s May Revision and protects the state’s minimum school funding law and .*

√ *Tell lawmakers how the cuts are affecting your students!*

Call your lawmaker by using CTA’s new text-to-call system. (Note: your phone carrier may impose a slight text message charge.)

Text 69866 and enter Prop98. You will be prompted to enter your name, voting address and then you will be connected to your Senator.

For more information, contact CTA Legislative Advocate Estelle Lemieux or GR Communications Consultant Len Feldman at 916.325.1500.

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