

March 2010

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
California State \_\_\_\_\_ (insert Senate or Assembly)  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Call for a State Budget That Protects Education and Children's Services**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

As a voter and parent in \_\_\_\_\_ School District, I am deeply concerned about the effect of the Governor's proposed budget on children. His proposal cuts public education funding by at least **another** \$2.4 billion and decimates children's healthcare and family services.

In our school district, that translates to a \$\_\_\_\_\_ cut or \_\_\_\_\_ percent. . This is on top of a \$\_\_\_\_\_ cut in 2009-10 and \$\_\_\_\_\_ over the last \_\_\_\_\_ years. Our children have already lost \_\_\_\_\_ (list examples - i.e. Class Size Reduction, Summer School, Home to School transportation, teachers, administrators, counselors, librarians, nurses etc,) and if this proposal goes through, our children stand to lose even more: \_\_\_\_\_ (list examples i.e. music, high school sports & activities, more teachers, administrators and support staff etc ).

***I strongly oppose this proposal and there are 9 million AND FIVE reasons why.***

1. California's more than 9 million children are our future. It is our duty to protect their well-being and invest in their education.
2. In the past two years, the state has cut \$17 billion from schools, and deep cuts to social services have added to the burden borne by the children and families most in need of help.
3. Investing in children benefits **all** California taxpayers.
4. The vast majority of Californians *support new revenues* to protect our schools from further cuts.
5. The time is **NOW**. Our children do not have the luxury of waiting without devastating consequences.

***I call on you, as my elected representative, to provide additional stable revenues in the 2010-11 state budget to invest in children and in California's future.*** I also urge you to support legislation to lower the threshold for passage of both the California state budget and revenue measures in the California Legislature, as well as local school parcel taxes, from the current two-thirds to a 55 percent vote or simple majority.

***We really can't race to the top in education if we sink to the bottom in our investment in children.***

Sincerely,

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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