



STATE BUDGET REVISE CONTINUES TO FLUNK THE BASIC TEST OF GOOD GOVERNMENT: IT HURTS OUR CHILDREN

Please forward to all PTA members

On Wednesday afternoon, Governor Schwarzenegger released the May Revision of his state budget proposal. The Legislature will be considering this proposal as it works to form a final budget, which requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass. Debate is expected to continue through the summer months.

The Bottom Line: As much as \$4 billion in cuts to education remain in this most recent proposal, as well as severe cuts to children's health and other support services.

These cuts would be devastating to the health, safety and education of our children and our future workforce.

Key Points:

- The May Revise continues to flunk the basic test of good government: It hurts our children.
- The May Revise meets the minimum legal requirement for schools – but it still makes drastic cuts to many vital programs that help student achievement, like class size reduction, instructional materials and career technical education programs.
- The May Revise makes severe cuts to children's healthcare, foster care and other support services that will harm our most vulnerable citizens.
- The Legislature and Governor must agree on a balanced budget solution that does not jeopardize our children's future and, in turn, the long term health of our state's economy.
- We must focus the conversation on how much we need to invest in our children, not how much we can afford to cut.
- Only by adequately investing in our children today, can we ensure that California has a viable economy in the future.
- A responsible budget doesn't make people choose between the health of children and their education – both are essential.

Since January, California State PTA and parents throughout the state have voiced strong opposition to the damaging cuts to education and children's services proposed in the state budget. **We must continue to raise our voices now more than ever in opposition to these proposed cuts.** We must stay the course through the summer and continue to work together to protect our children and the future of California.

California State PTA will continue to review and analyze the details of the budget proposal, so we can provide you with the information you need to keep your members and your local communities actively informed and engaged about the state budget.

To view the press release issued today by California State PTA, please visit our website at www.capta.org