

Thirty-second District



everychild.onevoice.

Directions for Submitting Letters to Legislators – 6/1/2011

Thank you for being willing to speak up on behalf of children and influence the Governor and key legislators as they negotiate the State budget.

On the following pages are a series of letters.

Please fill in the date, your name and address on the letters, print and sign them. Feel free to customize as you see fit. Note that legislators will not consider unsigned letters or letters that do not include a street address or for which the name and address is not legible.

Please send the letters in one of the following ways:

1. **Mail each letter individually** to the address on the letter.
2. **Fax the letters.** Fax numbers are on page 2.
3. In some cases, your school **PTA may have a project to collect letters**; you can contact your PTA to see if this is the case.
4. **Mail a packet of letters** to Nancy Vandell, 32nd District vice president for Education and Legislation (contact her via email at nmvandell@comcast.net for address) and she will hand carry the letters periodically to Sacramento.

You may also **copy the letter into an email** (don't use attachments), although this is not considered as effective by most legislators. Email addresses are provided below. Please only copy the body of the letter to Senators and the Governor due to character count limitations.

Should you wish to **contact your local legislator**, go to <http://www.legislature.ca.gov/>. All of our Contra Costa County legislators are fully in agreement with the need for revenue extensions, so we are not including them in this series of letters.

Please contact Nancy via email at nmvandell@comcast.net, or by telephone at 925-829-2355 if you have questions. She would also appreciate knowing that you sent letters or emails, as we have no way of being able to track responses.

To **sign up for timely legislation action alerts** and information from the California State PTA, go to http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/6485/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=4496

Please forward this packet to your friends and family members around the state who care about education. Encourage them to contact their local legislators; they can find their contact information at <http://www.legislature.ca.gov/>.

The letters are addressed to the following people:

- Governor Jerry Brown
 - Fax: (916) 558-3160
 - Email: http://gov.ca.gov/m_contact.php (copy body of letter into window that appears after providing name, address, etc.)
- Senator Darrell Steinberg, president pro tempore of the Senate
 - Fax: 916-323-2263
 - Email: <http://senate.ca.gov/senators> (copy just the body of letter into window)
- Senator Bob Dutton, Senate Minority Leader
 - Fax: 916-327-2272
 - Email: <http://senate.ca.gov/senators> (copy just the body of letter into window)
- Senator Bob Huff, Republican Caucus Chairman
 - Fax: 916-324-0922
 - Email: <http://senate.ca.gov/senators> (copy just the body of letter into window)
- Assemblymember John Pérez, Speaker of the Assembly
 - Fax: 916-319-2146
 - Email: speaker.perez@assembly.ca.gov
- Assemblymember Connie Conway, Assembly Minority Leader
 - Fax: 916-319-2134
 - Email: Assemblymember.Conway@assembly.ca.gov

Your letters do make a difference. Thank you for supporting children!

Please contact Nancy via email at nmvandell@comcast.net, or by telephone at 925-829-2355 if you have questions. She would also appreciate knowing that you sent letters or emails, as we have no way of being able to track responses.

June 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor
State Capitol, 10th & L Streets, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts Hurt Kids

Dear Governor Brown:

I strongly support your revised budget proposal to resolve the state's \$25 billion deficit, instead of yet again deferring it to future years with cuts, loans and gimmicks. Your proposal to cut approximately \$12.5 billion (much of which the legislature has already done) and cover the remainder with revenues generated mainly from a continuation of existing temporary revenues set to expire June 30, while painful, is reasonable.

I was very disappointed that our state legislature could not come to an agreement to allow a June ballot measure to have voters decide whether or not to extend the existing temporary taxes. You worked hard to make good on your campaign promise to take this to the voters, but the desired result did not come to pass. We now need your skills to bring the legislature together to pass the revenue extensions legislatively.

The revenue extensions are needed to keep even deeper cuts from the classroom. After three years of catastrophic cuts to education, school funding is "falling off a cliff." Should the revenue extensions not be granted, the possibilities look grave. We hear that the school year could be shortened by six weeks next year, and many school districts will face bankruptcy and even closure. Our children struggle with overcrowded classrooms, outdated instructional materials and less time (e.g. furlough days) to learn essential curriculum. Business needs for an educated workforce cannot be met with continuing diminishment of resources to its students.

The California Chamber of Commerce, the California State PTA and the Legislative Analyst all agree: it is vital that the current temporary revenues be extended before June 30. Our children's and our state's future is at stake.

Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

May 2011

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg
President Pro Tempore
California State Senate
State Capitol, 10th & L Streets, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts Hurt Kids

Dear Senator Steinberg:

I am writing to you in your capacity as a legislative leader to respectfully ask you to extend the expiring temporary revenues legislatively. I am very disappointed that our state legislature could not come to an agreement to allow a June ballot measure wherein the voters could decide whether or not to extend the existing temporary taxes. Since this did not happen, it is imperative that as a legislative leader you continue working to extend the revenues legislatively. While in California we give voters an opportunity through direct ballot measures to exercise their will, the foundation of our system remains a strong representative legislative body.

I support the Governor's revised budget proposal to resolve the \$25 billion deficit rather than continuing to defer it to future years with cuts, loans and gimmicks. The proposal to cut approximately \$12.5 billion (much of which the legislature has already done) and cover the remainder with revenues generated mainly from a continuation of existing temporary revenues set to expire June 30, while painful, is reasonable.

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The California Chamber of Commerce, the California State PTA and the Legislative Analyst all agree: it is vital that you work across the aisle to extend current temporary revenues before June 30. Our children's and our state's future is at stake.

Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

June 2011

The Honorable John Pérez
Speaker of the Assembly
California State Assembly
State Capitol, 10th & L Streets, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts Hurt Kids

Dear Speaker Pérez:

I am writing to you in your capacity as a legislative leader to respectfully ask you to extend the expiring temporary revenues legislatively. I am very disappointed that our state legislature could not come to an agreement to allow a June ballot measure wherein the voters could decide whether or not to extend the existing temporary taxes. Since this did not happen, it is imperative that as a legislative leader you continue working to extend the revenues legislatively. While in California we give voters an opportunity through direct ballot measures to exercise their will, the foundation of our system remains a strong representative legislative body.

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Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

June 2011

The Honorable Connie Conway
Assembly Minority Leader
California State Assembly
State Capitol, 10th & L Streets, Room 3104
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts Hurt Kids

Dear Assemblymember Conway:

I am writing to you in your capacity as a legislative leader to respectfully ask you to extend the expiring temporary revenues legislatively. I am very disappointed that our state legislature could not come to an agreement to allow a June ballot measure wherein the voters could decide whether or not to extend the existing temporary taxes. Since this did not happen, it is imperative that as a legislative leader you strongly consider extending the revenues legislatively. While in California we give voters an opportunity through direct ballot measures to exercise their will, the foundation of our system remains a strong representative legislative body.

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Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

June 2011

The Honorable Bob Dutton
Senate Minority Leader
California State Senate
State Capitol, 10th & L Streets, Room 305
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts Hurt Kids

Dear Senator Dutton:

I am writing to you in your capacity as a legislative leader to respectfully ask you to extend the expiring temporary revenues legislatively. I am very disappointed that our state legislature could not come to an agreement to allow a June ballot measure wherein the voters could decide whether or not to extend the existing temporary taxes. Since this did not happen, it is imperative that as a legislative leader you strongly consider extending the revenues legislatively. While in California we give voters an opportunity through direct ballot measures to exercise their will, the foundation of our system remains a strong representative legislative body.

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Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

June 2011

The Honorable Bob Huff
Republican Caucus Leader
California State Senate
State Capitol, 10th & L Streets, Room 5097
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Cuts Hurt Kids

Dear Senator Huff:

I am writing to you in your capacity as a legislative leader to respectfully ask you to extend the expiring temporary revenues legislatively. I am very disappointed that our state legislature could not come to an agreement to allow a June ballot measure wherein the voters could decide whether or not to extend the existing temporary taxes. Since this did not happen, it is imperative that as a legislative leader you strongly consider extending the revenues legislatively. While in California we give voters an opportunity through direct ballot measures to exercise their will, the foundation of our system remains a strong representative legislative body.

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