

Dear _____,

The proposed California budget includes a \$15 billion cut to K-12 education when our schools and our students need more support than ever. Our students are the future of California. Don't fail them now.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, 75% of California school districts were deficit spending due to flat funding and dramatic increased costs in special education and PERS and STRS contributions. As a result, over half of the California school districts had already initiated layoffs, increasing class sizes and cutting programs. A 7.5% cut to LCFF starting in the 2020-21 school year will bring devastating cuts to programs and send our class size soaring.

Any money that becomes available to make up for the Prop 98 cuts must be allocated using the Local Control Funding Formula. Replace the dollars the same way that they are being taken away. Small districts in California received as little as \$17 per student in Federal Cares money and most will receive 0% of the Federal relief that is proposed to be distributed at a 55% unduplicated count threshold. Every student and every community is feeling this depression and has experienced learning loss and hardship. Use the per pupil funding formula that was developed to ensure equity.

In order to get our students back to school with the new health requirements, school districts need flexibility in spending, a hold harmless on ADA, and flexibility with minutes/days in the school year.

Please help our local schools to get back to teaching students safely and effectively. Fund the new health requirements and allow maximum flexibility for districts to make the best decisions for their students.

Sincerely,