

GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

May 27, 2010

Dear Members of the California Congressional Delegation,

On behalf of the more than six million K-12 students in California, I write to urge your strong support for the Education Jobs Fund in the 2010 Supplemental Appropriations Act.

Our state is still seeing the consequences of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. While there are signs that the economy is slowly improving, California faces a nearly \$20 billion budget deficit. The Education Jobs Fund will provide critical funding to support California's students during this difficult economic time. Your support can help ensure that our students do not have to bear the burden of this nationwide recession.

California is standing with President Obama and Congress to boldly reform our education system. We have empowered parents and strengthened accountability standards, and we are supporting effective teachers and leaders. We are fighting to change state law to ensure that students are put first, such as allowing school districts to consider the needs of their schools and the effectiveness of their teachers – instead of merely their seniority – when making important staffing decisions.

The \$23 billion in the Education Jobs Fund will help keep our fantastic teachers and school leaders on the job and, most importantly, protect our students. I urge you and your colleagues to swiftly pass this vital legislation and support state and local school district efforts across the nation to ensure every student has equal access to quality education and graduates are prepared for success in college or career.

Sincerely.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

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