



CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

David A. Sanchez
President

September 9, 2009

Dean E. Vogel
Vice President

TO: Chapter Presidents with QEIA Schools

Gail M. Mendes
Secretary-Treasurer

FROM: David A. Sanchez, President *DS*

SUBJECT: Important News on QEIA Funding for 2009-10

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I am pleased to inform you that yesterday CTA's Governmental Relations division announced the outlines of a legislative proposal to address the challenges that have been raised over QEIA funding for 2009-10. As you recall, a one-time change in the funding sources for QEIA was part of the final budget act (ABx4 2) and resulted in a three-part process for 2009-10:

- 1) QEIA would be funded through Proposition 98 funds rather than through the state's general fund;
- 2) Each district with QEIA schools would have its revenue limit reduced by an amount equal to its QEIA funding;
- 3) An amount equal to the revenue limit reduction would be made available to those districts through other federal or state funding sources.

Carolyn Doggett
Executive Director

The three-part process was designed to result in no loss of funding to QEIA schools and districts, and that continues to be CTA's expectation. In the six weeks since the state budget was enacted, we have all been waiting to hear details on how that funding mechanism will function. However, we have not received the definitive answers necessary to allow district budgets to be finalized and QEIA plans to be fully implemented. This new legislative proposal provides a level of certainty to the three-part process so that districts can continue their fiscal operations and QEIA schools can focus on the important work of teaching and learning.

In short, the proposed language requires that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction can reduce the revenue limit to districts as specified in ABx4 2 **only after he certifies that an equivalent amount of state or federal funding is available to the district for the same purposes as the revenue limit funding.** The language removes all ambiguity, codifies the assurances given in July, and keeps revenue in the hands of the districts so that no gap occurs between the time revenue limit cuts are made and districts are made whole for those cuts with other sources of revenue.

The draft language has been circulated and bill details are being developed today. The Education Coalition has met and expressed

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support for this proposal. Because the regular session of the legislature ends this Friday, the movement on the bill will progress very quickly. You may receive alerts to contact your legislators or the Governor immediately and we rely on you to respond to those requests.

Some superintendents of QEIA districts have also been informed of this new legislative development and I urge you to share this information with those that have not yet heard of the proposal to garner their support. We will continue to keep you informed as new developments occur.

DAS/JER/jdh

cc: Dean E. Vogel
Gail M. Mendes
CTA Board of Directors
Carolyn Doggett
Jim Clark
Joe Nunez
Becky Zoglman
Justo Robles