

TAKE ACTION!



ASK YOUR LOCAL LEGISLATOR TO SIGN THE COMMITMENT CARD TO KEEP THEIR PROMISES TO CALIFORNIA'S STUDENTS

- ✓ Request a meeting with your legislator to talk about what's happening in your local schools as a result of the devastating statewide budget cuts. If you don't hear back from them, it's OK to "drop by" their office and ask them to sign the commitment card to keep their promises to California's students.
- ✓ Explain to your lawmaker that over the last two years, more than \$17 billion has already been cut from education. California's schools rank at the very bottom of all 50 states in staff-to-student ratios, and nearly last in the nation in per-pupil spending. In addition, libraries have been virtually wiped out, while arts, music, sports, advanced placement and other essential programs have been eliminated from the curriculum.

- ✓ Give specific examples of how this is impacting schools and students **LOCALLY**.
- ✓ Remind lawmakers that public schools have been subjected to 60% of the budget cuts, even though education funding only makes up 40% of the statewide budget.

Also - remind them of the promise they made to our students to protect education funding, and ask them to sign the commitment card to uphold the budget agreement that they signed into law. The card says that your lawmaker will:

- Protect public education funding from further cuts,
 - Stand by the budget agreement signed into law (AB 4X 3) to restore \$11.2 billion in funding owed to schools and community colleges, and
 - Oppose any attempts to suspend or undermine Prop 98, the voter-approved minimum school funding guarantee.
- ✓ Leave a copy of the card with the legislator, and take the signed copy back with you.
 - ✓ Report any signatures you receive from lawmakers to your organization's designated field representative, and fax them a copy of the signed document!