



**California Federation of Teachers**  
American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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*Mary Bergan, president of the California Federation of Teachers, issued the following reaction to the cuts in school budgets Governor Davis proposed today:*

“We know it will take drastic action to balance California’s budget. The governor’s proposed mid-year education cuts are indeed drastic. A \$1.9 billion cut in education might sound reasonable if you’re trying to balance the State’s budget on paper, but it will not be reasonable for the people trying to juggle programs or cut services in the middle of the school year.

“The effect of this reduction is going to be a scramble to put immediate program cuts into place. Some programs, such as adult education, will be especially hard hit. Adult education has already been limited to only the most essential programs, and now will be further reduced.

“Even the most prudent community college and school districts must be wondering how they will make it through June. And the outlook for next year is even worse.

“The impact on California children will go well beyond the education reductions. The loss of health care, childcare and other health and social services will hurt students’ performance at school in trying to meet our new higher standards.

“We are disappointed that there is not a proposal to immediately bring in more State revenues. Just as these cuts form the foundation for reducing the deficit further in January, immediate revenue increases would help us reach a budget solution.”

(end)

The California Federation of Teachers represents over one hundred thousand educators and classified employees at all levels of California public and private education.