



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

**MEDIA ADVISORY FOR:**

**Wednesday, May 14, 2003**

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## **Educators to Respond to Budget Revision**

**On Wednesday, May 14th, the California Federation of Teachers will respond to the Governor's Revised State Budget proposal.**

Massive school employee layoffs are being authorized as school districts, by California law, must notify by May 15 those teachers slated for layoff. K-12 teachers and classified employees, community college instructors, and early childhood educators are being laid off, in some districts by the hundreds.

After years of recruiting and preparing teachers to instruct California students to meet world-class standards, the State and school districts across California are now deciding to do without their services. "This is not inevitable. It is a choice," stressed CFT President Mary Bergan. "What a pity that policymakers would rather close classroom doors than close tax loopholes given to favored interests. Laying off teachers is a waste of the investment we've made in the last few years." Added Bergan, "Not many laid off teachers are going to wait around for legislators to raise revenues years from now. We know what happened in the 1980s, the last time such huge layoffs occurred. The majority of these talented teachers will shift to more stable and financially rewarding careers"

**WHO: Mary Bergan, President, California Federation of Teachers**

**WHAT: Impact of proposed school cuts, layoffs**

**WHERE: California Federation of Teachers**

**1127 - 11th Street, Suite 806  
Sacramento**

**WHEN: Wednesday, May 14**

**1:30 to 3:00 p.m**

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

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