



MEDIA ADVISORY for March 20, 2015

Contact: Fred Glass, 510-579-3343, fglass@cft.org

Cherri Senders, 818-422-2787, cherri@sendersgroup.com

CFT Convention this Weekend in Manhattan Beach

Providing quality public education is focus of annual gathering

Hundreds of educators and school support staff will gather at the Manhattan Beach Marriott March 20-22 for the 73rd annual California Federation of Teachers convention. This year's theme of "Organize, Fight Back, Win the Future" lays out the challenges facing public education and how the CFT plans to respond to the anti-union "education reform" agenda driven by corporate interests. Delegates will hear about the improvements in education generated by Proposition 30, strategies for extending the measure and other funding options. CFT members will consider resolutions submitted by locals throughout the state dealing with a wide range of educational policy issues. The convention will highlight the ongoing struggle for community college accreditation reform, and the commitment by the State Teachers Retirement System (CalsSTRS) to divest from gun manufacturers.

Convention Highlights:

- **Friday a.m.:** Guest Speaker **Tom Torlakson**, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- **Friday a.m.:** Guest Speaker **Betty Yee**, State Controller
- **Saturday a.m.:** Annual State of the Union address, **Joshua Pechthalt**, CFT President
- **Saturday p.m.:** Keynote: **Jeff Duncan-Andrade**, Associate Professor in Raza Studies at San Francisco State and author of numerous articles on education

WHAT: CFT 73rd Annual Convention
WHO: Joshua Pechthalt, President; Jeff Freitas, Secretary-Treasurer; Lacy Barnes, Senior VP
WHEN: Friday, March 20 – Sunday, March 22
WHERE: Manhattan Beach Marriott, 1400 Parkview Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
MORE INFO: www.cft.org

*****Media availability with CFT officers and members. To arrange, please contact Fred Glass (510-579-3343, fglass@cft.org) or Cherri Senders (818-422-2787, cherri@sendersgroup.com)**

#####

The California Federation of Teachers represents 120,000 education employees in public and private schools, from Head Start through the University of California. It is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO.