



MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Vergara* Lawsuit Attacking Teachers' Professional Rights a Waste of Taxpayer Dollars, Hurts Students**

Witnesses, administrators, teachers to lay out next steps at News Conference outside L.A. Superior Court and kick off closing arguments

*****Thursday, March 27, 2014 at 9:15 a.m.*****

WHO/WHAT: After a two-month long trial, the California Teachers Association (CTA) and the California Federation of Teachers (CFT) and legal team joined by supporters, will hold a news conference to kick off the day of closing arguments while outlining the next steps regarding the misguided *Vergara v. State of California* lawsuit. The news conference will be outside Los Angeles County Superior Court, where plaintiffs have offered contradictory testimony and failed to demonstrate their case throughout the two-month-long trial.

Speakers will include Jim Finberg, part of the legal team representing CTA and CFT in the trial; Jeff Seymour, former El Monte Superintendent; Casey Carlson, a teacher from Santa Cruz,; teachers Gloria Martinez and Erika Jones from the LA Unified School District; CTA President Dean E. Vogel; and CFT President Joshua Pechthalt. Spanish speakers will be available.

WHEN: Beginning promptly at **9:15 a.m. Thursday, March 27, 2014.**

WHERE: In front of Los Angeles County Superior Court, **110 North Grand Ave., Los Angeles, 90012.**

WHY: Because California's students deserve a quality education provided by highly qualified educators who have the flexibility and support they need to ensure student success. During the last two months, the plaintiffs failed to make any legal or logical connection between these laws and real issues important to our students and schools. This trial has simply been a charade hiding the real agenda of corporate interest groups—to do away with educators' rights and their unions, privatize schools and services, and deepen their pockets and those of their billionaire supporters—all on the backs of our students. Those who truly care about our students should be talking about restoring art and music to the curriculum, about providing nurses and librarians, about lowering class sizes, about bringing in more funding and resources into our schools, about parents and teachers working together more effectively, and how we can improve teacher training and evaluation.

For more background, see the online resources [here](#) and [here](#).

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The 325,000-member CTA is affiliated with the 3.2 million-member National Education Association. The California Federation of Teachers is the statewide affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, and represents more than 100,000 faculty and school employees in public and private schools and colleges, from early childhood through higher education.