



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

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**New Poll Shows Majority Support Raising Taxes for Public Education:
Educators Call for Fair Share of Taxes on the 1%**

Sacramento, CA – The California Federation of Teachers (CFT) today responded to the finding of strong majority support for raising taxes to fund public education in a University of Southern California (USC)/Los Angeles Times poll. “Even greater majorities of Californians support increasing income taxes on the top 1 percent of earners. The idea resonates with all geographic areas of the state, age groups, ethnicities and political persuasions because the 99% understands what has been happening,” said Joshua Pechthalt, CFT president.

“The top 1 percent of California's income earners has doubled its share of all income earned by individuals in the state, but pays a lower tax rate than before. Yet, when Congress extended Bush's tax cuts for the rich in December 2010, it handed California's wealthiest 1 percent a \$9 billion tax windfall - equal to half this year's state budget deficit. It's time to rethink taxes,” said Pechthalt.

According to a statewide survey last March of likely voters sponsored by the California Federation of Teachers, overwhelming majorities support a tax on the top 1 percent income bracket, people who make more than \$500,000 per year, rather than see further cuts to schools, public safety and other vital services.

For more information please visit: www.cft.org