



## **California Federation of Teachers**

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, April 13, 2012**

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### **“Our State, Our Future, Our Fight”**

## **600 Educators to Gather in San Jose for 2012 CFT Convention Will move forward Campaign for New Tax Initiative**

San Jose, CA - Hundreds of educators, elected local delegates of the California Federation of Teachers (CFT), gathered today in San Jose for the 70<sup>th</sup> annual CFT convention. They meet to strategize and move forward a campaign for the new progressive tax measure CFT is working on with Gov. Brown. They responded to national attacks on teachers and other public employees’ right to collectively bargain, to receive modest retirement benefits, to California school districts’ issuing thousands of layoff notices, and to diminishing access to public higher education for California’s families.

“Our values and principles are clearly reflected in this new initiative. It reduces the burden on working families and ensures a greater contribution from California’s top income earners. These changes will generate \$2 billion in additional vital funding in the next fiscal year, and we are determined to ensure those funds benefit the communities that have been hit hardest by budget cuts and our cash-strapped higher education institutions,” said CFT President Joshua Pechthalt.

Delegates marched behind the ILWU Drill Team through downtown San Jose in a One-Mile March for Fairness. The solidarity march brought together educators and San Jose union workers in the fight for fair taxation and adequate funding, and culminated with a noon rally in Cesar Chavez Park.

*For more information please visit: [www.cft.org](http://www.cft.org)*