



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

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California Labor Federation Endorses Prop 30

Statement from the California Federation of Teachers and the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO:

Yesterday the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, announced its endorsement of Proposition 30, the Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act of 2012. After the voters approve it in November, Prop 30 will bring \$6 to 9 billion dollars per year into California's state treasury to restore funding to public education and public safety by asking all Californians, especially the state's wealthy, to pay a more fair share of taxes.

CFT president Joshua Pechthalt said, "The support of the united labor movement of California will prove to be the difference in passing Prop 30. The outcome of this ballot measure will not only be stronger schools and safer streets. California changed the conversation of the nation on tax policy more than three decades ago with Prop 13. Now we have the opportunity to change the conversation again. The difference is that this time we will change the nation's thinking in the right direction, which is toward a reinvestment in our common needs and a better future. With this endorsement, the labor movement joins a growing network of grassroots organizations like California Calls, the Courage Campaign, and ACCE that merged their efforts with Governor Brown to build a coalition that can reclaim California's future."

"Budget cuts are shredding the California Dream," said California Labor Federation Executive Secretary-Treasurer Art Pulaski. "Funding our schools and public safety is essential to rebuilding California and creating a healthier economy for the future. Prop. 30 is vital to getting California back on track."

Proposition 30 will fund schools and public safety through a combination of taxes on the wealthy (90% of the revenue) and a modest increase of 1/4 of one per cent in the state sales tax (10% of the revenue). Over the past twenty years the state's richest taxpayers have doubled their share of California's total income while paying lower taxes. For more information, go to www.cft.org.

The California Federation of Teachers is the statewide affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers. The CFT represents faculty and other school employees in public and private schools and colleges, from early childhood through higher education. The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO is made up of more than 1,200 unions, representing over two million union members.