



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

**MEDIA ADVISORY FOR:
Tuesday, July 29, 2008**

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Educators' new ad calls for revenue, not rhetoric

Seniors, health care workers join teachers to prevent cuts with billboard launch

Sacramento, CA – Sacramento educators, senior advocates and health care workers will call on Republican legislators to close tax loopholes, not schools, health clinics, and fire stations. Members of the California Federation of Teachers and community allies will launch a new new traveling billboard to draw attention to the human costs of a cuts-only state budget.

“What’s more important, protecting the tax loopholes for yacht and private plane owners and oil corporations, and reduced tax rates for the rich, or giving the people of California the education, public safety and health care that they need and deserve?” asks Dean Murakami, President of the Los Rios College Federation of Teachers. “We need revenue, not rhetoric.”

If the Governor’s “cuts only” budget passes, Sacramento County will see devastating reductions in funding to critical programs. School funding will be slashed by \$98 million and over 6,376 seniors and people with disabilities will lose in-home-support services. Healthcare, transportation, and veterans’ services will likewise see deep cuts.

The colorful billboard will tour the streets of Sacramento, rotating the phone numbers of State Senator Cox and Assemblymembers Niello and Nakanishi.

“No one wants their grandparents to have to make the painful choice between paying their rent or electric bill and buying food or prescription drugs,” says Gary Passmore, Director of the Congress of California Seniors. “Our seniors built the Golden State, and they shouldn’t have to pay the price for the Republicans’ refusal to come to the table. I urge Senator Cox, Assemblymembers Niello and Nakanishi, and their Republican colleagues, to do the right thing.”

When:	Tuesday July 29, 2008 at 10 A.M.
Where:	12th and N Streets, Congress of California Seniors
Who:	Dean Murakami, president, Los Rios College Federation of Teachers; Gary Passmore, Director of the Congress of California Seniors; concerned residents.