



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

NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY FOR: Fri., March 18 – Sunday, March 20, 2011

Contact: Fred Glass, 510/ 579.3343, cftoakland@igc.org
Steve Hopcraft, 916/ 457.5546, steve@hopcraft.com

**600 Educators to Gather in LA to
“Stand Up, Stand Together, Speak Out” at
CFT 2011 Convention:
Fight Attacks on Rights & Pensions;
Thousands of Layoff Notices Statewide**

Hundreds of educators, elected local delegates of the California Federation of Teachers (CFT), will gather in Manhattan Beach March 18-20 for its 69th annual convention. They meet midst national attacks on teachers’ rights to collectively bargain, to receive modest retirement benefits, and with California school districts issuing thousands of layoff notices. On the agenda: Friday morning addresses by Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and Los Angeles County Labor Federation leader Maria-Elena Durazo, workshops, and a look at past responses to attacks on free speech. Senator Loni Hancock will receive CFT’s “Legislator of the Year” award on Sunday morning.

“Blaming teachers, taking away the union's right to collectively bargain, laying off teachers and other education employees, reducing well-earned pensions, and cutting education funding are attacks on our professions that we will defeat. We will stand up together and speak out against these ill-advised assaults that undermine our students’ education,” said CFT President Marty Hittelman.

The convention is the highest decision-making body of the union. The meeting will be held at the Manhattan Beach Marriott.

The focus of this year’s convention is the “Stand Up, Stand Together, Speak Out,” as teachers withstand attacks on their union rights, pensions and jobs.

WHAT: California Federation of Teachers’ 68th Annual Convention

WHO: Marty Hittelman, CFT President

WHEN: Friday, March 18, 9:15 am – media availability Palm Room

WHERE: Manhattan Beach Marriott, 1400 Parkview Ave., Manhattan Beach

For more information please visit: www.cft.org