



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, June 5, 2009

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CFT Welcomes School Boards support of lawsuit for Prop. 98 Funds

Legal Action Would Force Repayment of up to \$12 Billion Owed to Schools

SACRAMENTO – The president of the California Federation of Teachers (CFT) responded today to the California School Boards Association’s (CSBA) support for the Federation’s lawsuit to force the State to repay schools almost \$12 billion in funding required under Proposition 98, the minimum school funding measure.

“California voters passed Prop. 98 to stabilize education funding and prevent permanent reductions. In years of flat or falling revenues, as has been the case recently, schools are to receive at least what they received the prior year. When schools receive less funding than Prop. 98 requires, the State is required to repay funds as soon as it is able to do so,” said Marty Hittelman, president of the California Federation of Teachers. “We applaud the decision by California’s school board members to join in this lawsuit to force payment of almost \$12 billion owed to our schools.”

The lawsuit, filed by fourth-grade Jefferson Elementary School teacher Melinda Dart, the California Federation of Teachers and Local 99 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), is pending in San Francisco Superior Court. It seeks restoration of funding owed to schools from the 2007-08 and 2008-09 school years when school funding was cut below Prop. 98’s minimum funding level. The action seeks restoration of the funds as soon as the State is able to do so.

As 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.

For more information, please visit: www.cft.org

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