



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

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Contact: Steve Hopcraft, 916/ 457-5546; steve@hopcraft.com; Twitter: @shopcraft, Fred Glass, 510/ 579-3343; fglasscft@gmail.com

New animated cartoon weighs in on Congressional debate
Ed Asner narrates *Tax the rich: An animated fairy tale*

Sacramento, CA – The California Federation of Teachers (CFT), AFT, AFL-CIO, today released an animated video narrated by Ed Asner that lays out the case for fair taxation. The union urges Congress to repeal Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. “Following the decisive victory of Prop 30 in California, this video promotes a fair tax system to fund America’s priorities,” said CFT President Joshua Pechthalt. “The best way to build a better American education system and protect the social safety net is by asking those who can most afford it to pay their fair share in taxes, so that educators will be better positioned to help our students achieve their dreams.”

Tax the rich: An animated fairy tale, with animation by award-winning artist Mike Konopacki, was written and directed by Fred Glass for the California Federation of Teachers. The 8-minute cartoon shows how we arrived at this moment of poorly funded public services and widening economic inequality. Things go downhill in a happy and prosperous land after the rich decide they don't want to pay taxes anymore. They tell the people that there is no alternative, but the people aren't so sure. “This video launches the next phase of our campaign to restore fair tax rates on the wealthy, so that we may once more enjoy properly funded public services,” said Pechthalt, whose union played a key role in the passage of Prop 30. “Congress should immediately approve the President’s plan to preserve lower tax rates for the overwhelming majority of American households, while restoring higher tax rates on those who have benefited most from our society.”

View animation: <http://youtu.be/cwg4DB-EeEA>

CFT President Josh Pechthalt is available for interviews regarding the animated Tax the Rich video, and to comment on how the Prop 30 victory in California is impacting the Congressional debate on taxes.

For more information please visit: www.cft.org