

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

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Statement on AB 375 and AB 1338 from CFT President Joshua Pechthalt

The CFT welcomes the action by Senator Padilla today in withdrawing SB 10. We agree with Assembly member Buchanan's thoughtful approach to ensuring the safety of our students in AB 375 and AB 1338 while preserving due process rights for school employees. In removing outdated provisions of the Education Code it recognizes current realities, and steers clear of blaming teachers for circumstances that often have nothing to do with them. In shortening the dismissal appeal process AB 375 will nonetheless retain the ability of teachers to appeal while saving time and expense for school districts. We also agree with the proposal in AB 1338 that school districts must have a policy on mandated reporting of child abuse, and review that policy each year with school employees. This would serve the aim of prevention, which is always to be preferred to punishment for failure to maintain safety after the fact.

For more information, go to www.cft.org.