



TO: Teachers
FROM: CFT and Californians Together
RE: Bilingual Teacher Survey – Teacher Responses Requested

The **California Federation of Teachers (CFT)** has joined **Californians Together** to [survey teachers](#) across California regarding the **Bilingual Teacher Shortage**.

In 2016, California voters resoundingly passed (73.5%) Proposition 58, also known as **Language Education, Acquisition and Readiness Now (LEARN) Initiative**, which:

- recognized the importance of providing opportunities for all student to become bilingual and biliterate;
- removed the mandate for a "one size fits all" approach to educating 1.4 million students learning English in California and provided more opportunities for all students to learn another language;
- and lastly, gave the decision making to families and educators to determine the best approach to prepare all students for the 21st century.

One of the challenges to expanding language programs is the bilingual teacher shortage. In 2017, Californians Together will lead a policy agenda to address the existing shortage of bilingual teachers in the state. As part of this effort, Californians Together, in partnership with CTA, is conducting a teacher survey to collect data across the state to better understand the extent of the bilingual teacher shortage.

This survey was designed for teachers that can answer questions about: language fluency, literacy and workforce development needs. The feedback collected will help to determine the current number of certified and non-certified teachers that are able to teach in language programs.

Data from the survey will be reported as an aggregate of all the teacher responses will help to assess the current bilingual teacher shortage. Individual survey responses will remain **confidential**. The collected survey data will guide state policy and advocacy efforts for the 2017 legislative year.

Please complete this [Bilingual Teacher Survey](#) by **Friday, March 31st**. Your participation will strengthen the rationale for State support to address the bilingual

teacher shortage.

We thank you for your invaluable feedback and encourage you to forward the survey to other teachers.

If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Spiegel-Coleman, Executive Director of Californians Together at shelly@californianstogether.org or [\(562\) 983-1333](tel:(562)983-1333).

We thank you for your invaluable feedback. shelly@californianstogether.org