

For Immediate Release
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In Case You Missed It:
California Democrats Support Measure to Protect Public Education Funding
Extension of Prop 30 Would Provide Budget Stability for our Schools

The California Democratic Party took a stand to protect public education and students, not millionaires, at the State Convention this past weekend by voting to support the ballot measure that will temporarily extend the income taxes on the wealthiest 2% of Californians to fund public education and health care.

"I am proud that California Democrats gave their endorsement upon qualification to the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act. California students and teachers are starting to see the positive results of Proposition 30's investment in public schools," said California Democratic Party Chairman John Burton. "We need to continue the momentum, and I look forward to supporting the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act when it qualifies for the November ballot."

The measure, currently collecting signatures, would be an extension of Proposition 30 supported by Governor Jerry Brown and overwhelmingly passed by voters in 2012. The Democratic Party joins a growing coalition of teachers, educators, medical professionals, health care workers and others in the effort to protect students, schools and health care.

The last recession caused more than \$50 billion in cuts to education that will never be paid back, and billions in cuts to healthcare and other critical services. Had Prop 30 not passed, California would have faced another \$6 billion in cuts in 2013 alone.

Prop 30 has helped public education restore some of the funds it lost during the recession – generating more than \$24 billion and counting – but funding for our K-12 schools and community colleges is only starting to get back on track to where it was before the recession.

Prop 30 did more than just increase education funding though. It has allowed more funds to prevent additional devastating cuts to services for seniors and low-income children, along with health care programs, while also stabilizing the budget overall.

However, Governor Brown's budget forecasts show that unless we extend Prop 30, California's public schools will face nearly \$5 billion in cuts and our budget will face a nearly \$3 billion deficit in the first year alone. Without an extension, California risks going back to the days of pink slips, huge budget holes for our health care programs and massive budget cuts.

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