

California School Boards Association

April 11, 2008

The Honorable Mark Leno
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
California State Assembly
State Capitol Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 2544 (Mullin): SUPPORT
Assembly Appropriations Committee
Hearing Date: April 16, 2008



Dear Assembly Member Leno:

On behalf of the California School Boards Association (CSBA), which represents nearly 1,000 school districts and county boards of education statewide, we are pleased to support AB 2544 (Mullin) regarding staff development, which is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on April 16, 2008.

AB 2544 would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a plan and make recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on the development of a model civic education staff development program.

Although government and civic engagement are included in the state History/Social Science framework, there is no state-sponsored professional development program to help teachers implement what they are asked to teach. Research has shown that improvement is needed in the way civics is taught and very few resources exist for preparing teachers to teach civics effectively.

This bill seeks to take a first step in developing a civic education staff development program to help teachers in preparing young people to understand our government and how citizens can participate in civic life.

For this reason we are pleased to support AB 2544 (Mullin) and request your **“AYE”** vote when it is heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on April 16, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian M. Rivas".

Brian M. Rivas
Senior Legislative Advocate
Governmental Relations

cc: Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Assembly Member Gene Mullin
Robert Becker, Principal Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

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