



**CALIFORNIA STATE  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **California State NAACP Issues Statement In Support Of ACLU Lawsuit And Applauds The Governor's Action**

SACRAMENTO – California State NAACP President Alice A. Huffman today issued the following statement in support of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) lawsuit to ensure student civil rights, and to applaud Governor Schwarzenegger's support of the suit as he pursues reforms to address the issue of educational inequality in California:

“It is not only unacceptable but unimaginable that current state law forces school districts to abandon the civil right of our neediest children to quality education.

When state and district policies allow an overwhelming number of the newest teachers to be hired at the highest need schools, the layoff process that we're seeing now effectively cripples schools attended by low-income and minority students.

So, this is why the NAACP stands with the ACLU in its lawsuit seeking a preliminary injunction and a permanent injunction to prevent these teacher layoffs, and, to deliver the funding necessary to stabilize the educational future of students at the schools named in the lawsuit.

If the government can help Wall Street, then surely it ought to help poor kids in Watts and Pico-Union.

I applaud the Governor for standing with the ACLU and for reminding everyone that education is first and foremost about the needs of the child. Educational inequality for too long has languished in California – the time for action is now.”

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Founded in 1909, the NAACP - the nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights and social justice organization. Its more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors

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