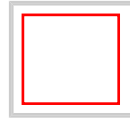
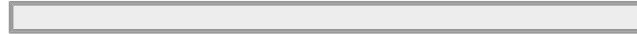


President's Monthly Message (archived)

- updated **October 1, 2005**



<**Learn more** about the CCA President, Carolyn Inmon, [here](#).

It is now less than 40 days until we get the opportunity to tell the governor what we think of his harmful agenda and his unnecessary and expensive special election by voting NO on Propositions 74, 75, and 76.

It is time to turn our attention to the special election. All of us have been busy getting the new school year under way but it is time to turn our attention to the special election.

It is time to make a decision. Do we want to retain our power as educators or do we want to give it to the governor? If you want to retain your power as a union member, then vote NO on Propositions 74, 75, and 76.

It is time to volunteer. Volunteer with your local chapter or volunteer with CTA or with the Alliance:

Alliance for a Better California: www.BetterCA.com.

CTA: www.campaign05.org

It is time for urgency. Our future depends on defeating these propositions. Right now, *nothing is more important*. It is time for a strong sense of urgency. We must not merely ask others to join us but convince them that we are fighting for our very existence and the existence of our colleagues in other public professions.

It is time to realize that we are not alone! Are educators alone in this fight? No. Here are some of the things that other leaders have to say.

- “Proposition 76 will hurt our ability to protect public safety. We’re warning Californians that this measure will have a severe impact on California’s entire public safety network — police, fire and emergency services.” Lou Paulson, president of California Professional Firefighters
- “Proposition 76 erodes our system of ‘checks and balances’ by giving the Governor unprecedented new power to cut funding for education, public safety, health care and other programs — with no legislative oversight or accountability. We’ve seen his approach to public safety, and we don’t trust him with more power” Mike Jimenez, president of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association
- “Make no mistake - Proposition 76 will make our job of protecting the people of California even tougher, and hurt our ability to respond in times of a statewide emergency.” Rick Mattos, vice president of the California Association of Highway Patrolmen.

- “This isn’t scare talk. Proposition 76 is a very real threat to California’s public safety workers and the people we protect.” Ron Cottingham, president of the Peace Officers Research Association of California.

It isn’t scare talk. It is honest talk about how faculty, librarians, counselors, students, firefighters, nurses, peace officers, highway patrolmen, correction officers and others will be hurt if we lose our voice and lose our money. So TALK!

It is Time to Talk!

- **Talk** to at least 20 of your friends;
- **Talk** to members of the community;
- **Talk** to people on the phone (phone bank);
- **Talk** to people in the grocery store;
- **Talk** to your neighbors;
- **Talk** to 20 more of your friends;
- **Talk** to people at the soccer game;
- **Talk** to your family members;
- **Talk** to your colleagues at your college;
- **Talk** to 20 more friends. (I know you have 60 friends);
- **Talk** to people at regularly established meetings (department, Senate, committees, etc.);
- **Talk** to people door to door. Ask your friend or family member to join you. It’s more fun and you can pretend you’re both doing your Saturday morning exercise (precinct walk);
- **Talk** to students and have students talk to each other. Start a **CCA Student Speakers Bureau**;
- **Talk! Talk! Talk! Talk!** One to one is how we’re going to do it. We need the voters in our communities in order to win this election. Research suggests that voters respond most positively when real people talk with them about these propositions; and
- **Talk again!** We may need to talk to the same people more than once. The governor’s media blitz may confuse some people and you’ll have to come back with the answers.

Let’s make the best of the next 40-days and work hard to defeat the Governor’s harmful agenda.

Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.



Strength In Numbers

There is strength in numbers!

Happy Labor Day

We must use our strength to protect labor.

We must use our strength to defeat Proposition 74.

We must use our strength to defeat Proposition 75.

We must use our strength to defeat Proposition 76.

My father Clyde was a dock worker in Long Beach and a proud member of one of the most powerful unions in the country. My Uncle Bud used to sit around the kitchen table and talk about

what he would do if people crossed the picket line. I come from a family of ordinary workers and proud union members. Like so many of our students, I was the first and only member of my family to graduate from college. I come from a long line of union members and I have always understood the value of unions and the absolute necessity for them. One of my favorite films is Norma Ray. My favorite scene is when Norma made a hand lettered sign saying UNION and jumped on the table to show the sign to the workers. It is one of the most powerful nonverbal scenes in American film. One by one, the workers turned off their machines. They had much to lose. They had no union. They had no protection. They were poor and needed their jobs. But they took a chance and joined together in order to make things better. They understood the basic concept that they could accomplish more together than they could separately.

On this Labor Day, let us reflect on the history of unions and know that the methods of previous years matched the dire needs that existed. We have come a long way since the days of Clyde and Bud. Our methods are different. Our goals are similar. The need is identical. We need unions – now more than ever. There are forces in society that would wipe out our progress and return us to a previous time.

The dictionary defines UNION as joining together for a common purpose. Union simply means to be united or unified. And that's what we are. We unite together to provide strength. The 335,000 members of CTA and the 2.7 million members of NEA make up the largest and strongest labor unions in the state and the country. CCA is an important part of these organizations and together we gain strength.

It has been said that an injustice to one is an injustice to all. As your CCA President, one of my duties is to tell the story of community college faculty.

I will tell the story of Lisa and other former students who are now student teaching, hoping to become teachers in a year or so. If this governor gets his way, the time will be increased for them to get permanent status. This governor would make it easier for them to be dismissed. It is already hard to recruit excellent new teachers and this governor would make it even harder. This governor makes our young friends the scapegoats. There are problems in education but this idea does nothing to solve them.

WE MUST USE OUR STRENGTH TO DEFEAT PROPOSITION 74!

I will tell the story of Karin from Riverside, Denise from College of the Desert, and Terri from Mt. San Antonio – hard working chapter presidents who are laboring in small and large chapters for the betterment of faculty. This governor wants to make their jobs harder. He wants to silence their members. Although the corporate sector outspends labor 24 to 1, without obtaining permission to use the shareholders money, this governor thinks hard working chapter presidents should work harder. He wants to add more bureaucracy to their jobs.

WE MUST USE OUR STRENGTH TO DEFEAT PROPOSITION 75!

I will tell the story of John, an English professor friend of mine, who corrects papers until midnight during the week and on Saturday and Sunday as well. It concerns me that this governor wants to destroy Proposition 98 which would ultimately take away some of his compensation.

WE MUST USE OUR STRENGTH TO DEFEAT PROPOSITION 76!

Let's work together to show this governor that his unnecessary election was a waste of time. Teachers, fire fighters and nurses have united to defeat him. Let's show him that he picked on the

wrong members of society.

Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.

