

IN CALIFORNIA, THE TEACHERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS BACK TO WORK ACT WILL PROVIDE OVER \$3.6 BILLION IN FUNDS TO SUPPORT UP TO 37,300 EDUCATOR JOBS

The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will save or create nearly 400,000 education jobs through critical investments in the education of our nation's children. Specifically, The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will invest \$30 billion to support state and local efforts to retain, rehire, and hire early childhood, elementary, and secondary educators. Facing a \$10.3 billion projected budget shortfall in 2013, cuts to state and local spending on education will place thousands of California teacher jobs at risk. The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will provide California with an additional \$3.6 billion in funds that will support 37,300 education jobs, provide a jolt to the state economy, and improve the quality of education. By asking millionaires to pay their fair share, The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will grow the California economy without adding a dime to the deficit.

California Budget Shortfall Forced State To Slash Education Spending by 23 Percent. As a result of the most severe fiscal crisis since the Great Depression, California faced a budget shortfall of \$23 billion in 2012, a staggering 27.2% of the state's General Fund. Given the dramatic reduction in state revenue, the state was forced to slash funding for educational programs and services. In California, elementary and high schools are currently receiving 23% less state funding this year than in 2008. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/17/11](#); Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [10/7/11](#)]

In California, 76,700 Education Jobs Have Been Lost Since 2008. Given California's cuts to education programs, local school districts are forced to cut back on educational programs and services, often laying-off needed teachers and other critical staff, or raising additional revenue to cover the shortfall. As a result, California schools have cut 76,700 education jobs since 2008. These unprecedented layoffs extended the recession and have slowed the recovery in California. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [10/7/11](#); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, accessed on [10/14/11](#)]

With Fewer Teachers and Resources, California School Systems Make Choices That Impact the Learning Environment for Students. "California reduced K-12 aid to local school districts by billions of dollars and cut a variety of programs, including adult literacy instruction and help for high-needs students." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [2/9/11](#)]

Democrats Helped California Avoid an Even Worse Situation, Preventing Thousands of Potential Layoffs. Without Democratic intervention in 2010, California school districts would have been forced to lay off as many as 36,004 teachers. Recognizing the financial difficulty that many state and local governments were experiencing, Democrats shepherded the bipartisan Education Jobs Act into law, thereby protecting 16,500 education jobs in California. Unfortunately, thousands of teacher jobs are still at stake today. [U.S. Department of Education analysis, [8/6/10](#); National Education Association, [5/10](#)]