



California Teachers Empowerment Network

Standing out from the crowd, fully informed on the issues

January 15, 2008

Dear Colleague,

Once again, we would like to thank you for the feedback on the December letter. Our network is at its best when there is a healthy exchange of ideas. Please continue to send in any news stories, events, etc. that you think would be of interest to teachers around the state.

A couple of stories have been brought to our attention this month –

1. Many people have posited the question, “What kinds of values do American teachers have?” Recently, an extensive study gave us some answers. To read more, please go to <http://www.hoover.org/publications/ednext/10823521.html>

2. SB 777, recently signed into law, has brought out passions on both sides of the political aisle. The bill itself is rather lengthy and can be found at

http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/07-08/bill/sen/sb_0751-0800/sb_777_bill_20071012_chaptered.html

To read an earlier version of the bill with analysis, please go to

http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/07-08/bill/sen/sb_0751-0800/sb_777_cfa_20070625_132151_asm_comm.html

Also, if you were wondering, the CTA supported this legislation.

Additionally,

- We have revamped our website’s religious objector page. If this is an option you are interested in, please go to <http://www.ctenhome.org/knowMembership.htm>
- Very shortly, a letter will be sent to California State University faculty members who have chosen not to join the California Faculty Association. These faculty members will be told that unless they decide to "opt out" they will be charged the "equivalent of dues." What this means very simply is that those who have opted not to join the union will be paying full union dues unless they jump through hoops to maintain their current status as agency fee payers. To read a letter recently mailed to all CFA members go to <http://www.ctenhome.org/PDFdocs/CFADoc.pdf>
- Our online forum is up and running. To have a conversation with like-minded teachers all over the state, please go to <http://www.ctenhome.org/forums.htm>
- And once again, we are very interested in meeting with you and your colleagues to see how we can best spread the CTEN message.

For more information about CTEN, please visit our website – www.ctenhome.org

Sincerely,

Larry Sand, President