## STATE COUNCIL REPORT - JUNE 2025



Dear Members,

While State Council was being held in DTLA, ICE was conducting raids in the area and people were coming out in protest. David Huerta, president of the SEIU, was arrested for exercising his First Amendment right to peacefully assemble and protest. CTA Executive Officers and State Council recommended immediate action on NBI 6/25-29, which denounces ICE's violation of human rights and demands an end to immigration raids targeting our communities. Members were encouraged to protest and gather peacefully in the coming weeks and months. David Goldberg, our CTA President, spoke about the unprecedented attacks on our communities. "The idea of showing up to our classroom and seeing an empty desk and knowing that some of our students are terrified, separated from family and community, and on their way to some detention center - it's not just heartbreaking, it's enraging. As teachers, we know our duty is to fight back. There are many peaceful protests planned for this coming Saturday, June 14. Let's get out there, for whoever can, to protest the harmful actions of the Federal Administration.

AB 715 is a fast-moving "intent" bill that has many educators concerned for our academic freedoms. An "intent" bill is a bill that is being forwarded through legislation without the actual writing being complete. The authors say what the intent of the bill will be, but, as the bill hasn't been written, it's difficult to judge the effect of the actual bill. AB 715 claims that it will protect students from discriminatory materials and curriculum, focusing on antisemitism, so it's difficult to oppose the bill on "intent". However, Ed Code already has a lot of language that prohibits discrimination against all protected classes and requires diverse curriculum, so the necessity of this new bill is questionable. The concern is that this bill is being fast-forwarded and will be used to prohibit diverse and inclusive curriculum. CTA has created a committee to watch the progress of AB 715, and educators are encouraged to research during the summer and contact state assembly members and senators about academic freedom concerns should you wish to. CTA is well aware and has AB 715 firmly on its radar.

For many districts, TK will be required for the 25-26 school year if the district offers K. Basic Aid districts (aka more affluent districts) won an appeal that allows them to not follow this mandate, as it is unfunded for them. AB 1391, if passed, would allow for add-on funding for Basic Aid districts who choose to offer TK. Community members affected by this appeal are encouraged to put pressure on their districts to offer TK if they don't already.

Teachers now have additional options if they want to add Supplementary Authorization to their existing Gen Ed Credentials. They may now pass the corresponding CSET exam, complete coursework and take CSET, or utilize a comparable license from another state. Refer to AB 2473 or California Commission on Teacher Credentialing website: <a href="mailto:ctc.ca.gov">ctc.ca.gov</a>. CTA has been working with the CCTC to provide these multiple pathways.

A new pilot program in San Francisco, changes the length of WASC from four to three days, and from four Focus Groups to three. Look for this new simplified WASC process to be implemented in the near future.

Two NBIs came to a vote for immediate action at council regarding CalSTRS divesting from fossil fuels and Trump Media. After much discussion and debate, State Council agreed to oppose divestments from fossil fuels within 5 years, based on the idea that CalSTRS already has a plan to divest before 2050, but we did approve a recommend that CalSTRS divest from Trump Media and Technology, on the basis that Trump is actively trying to destroy public education and that it's just a bad investment. It's worth noting that CalSTRS did not actively seek to purchase stock in Trump Media. CalSTRS' investment portfolio includes bundled stocks that are called Indexes. The Trump Media stock holdings were added to a broader index, making it more complicated to divest.

A special guest, the incomparable and indomitable Dolores Huerta, joined us on Sunday and gave our General Assembly hope and energy with her inspirational words. She reminded us that we must continue the fight and that we are all fellow-homosapiens. She ended her speech with this expression of gratitude: "Thank you for being the army that is going to save our country."

Lastly, we are linking some great slides that explain exactly where members' dues are going so that any member can see how their dues are being spent. The CTA Budget slides can be found <a href="here">here</a>. The entire report book for State Council June 2025 can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

If you are reading this and you have any questions or concerns, then please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Our emails can be found at the bottom of this report.

In solidarity,

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