



## CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

March 25, 2008

Ms. Mary D. Nichols, Chair  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Regarding: *March 27 Board Meeting Agenda Item 08-3-4 School Bus Guidelines***

Dear Ms. Nichols:

In regards to the staff proposal, the California Teachers Association is adamantly opposed to the imposition of a \$25,000 match by school districts for 2 primary reasons:

- 1) The current fiscal crisis facing California public schools; and,
- 2) The lack of authority by the Air Resources Board (ARB) to impose the match requirement.

The match requirement will result in many of our public school districts not participating in the program causing additional accidents and injuries to students going to and from school as well as contributing to added congestion and poor air quality.

While CTA appreciates the ARB's contention that many local air quality districts will provide their available Proposition 1B funding to school districts for the match, without assurances that require local air districts to expend their funds in this manner, we cannot support the staff recommendation.

Additionally, there was nothing in the voter-approved Proposition 1B or in the enabling legislation that gives the ARB the authority to require such a match. We believe the ARB is overstepping its authority and ultimately will be required to either seek a legislative remedy or to eliminate the match requirement.

For these reasons, the 345,000 members of the California Teachers Association urge the Air Resources Board to reject the staff recommendation requiring school districts matching funds.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Toni Trigueiro, Legislative Advocate  
California Teachers Association

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