



California Educational Technology Professionals Association

<http://www.cetpa.net/>

President

Lorrie Owens

San Mateo County
Office of Education

Past President

Julie Judd

Ventura County
Office of Education

President-Elect

David Goldsmith

Hanford Elementary
District

Treasurer

Peter Skibitzki

San Juan Unified
School District

Secretary

Brianne Ford

Irvine Unified School
District

Directors

Eric Calderon

Riverside County Office
of Education

DeWayne Cossey

Vista Unified School
District

Jeremy Davis

Fullerton Elementary
School District

Rolland Kornblau

El Rancho Unified
School District

Tim Landeck

Los Gatos Union
School District

Phil Scrivano

Simi Valley Unified

Steven Thornton

Menifee Union School
District

May 10, 2019

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 39 (Muratsuchi) - Education Finance: Local Control Funding Formula: Funding Increase - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez,

The **California Educational Technology Professionals Association (CETPA)** supports **AB 39 (Muratsuchi)**. This bill would increase the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) targets as of the 2020-21 fiscal year. If those targets are funded, California would once again rank among the top ten of states in per-pupil funding.

The LCFF created greater equity and transparency in the school finance system, but as a distributional formula did not address the sufficiency of school funding in California. As you know, California ranks low in per-pupil spending, with the most recent publications ranking California between 41st and 45th in cost-adjusted spending. While recent economic growth has helped schools recover after the recession, low per-pupil funding means the LCFF promise of expanding services and lifting achievement for our most vulnerable student groups is left unfulfilled.

The problem of low funding is exacerbated by rising costs for services (such as special education) and providing our employees decent health coverage and pensions. Further, while the demands for access to technology in schools are increasing rapidly, improvements to, and maintenance of, technology infrastructure are typically the first items "off the table" as pressures on school budgets increase. AB 39 aims to address this problem by establishing new funding targets that will enable schools to provide all students with a high-quality education while also meeting rising cost pressures.

Base LCFF funding should be sufficient to ensure a high-quality education program in all schools, with supplemental and concentration grants focused on increased and improved services for students facing greater challenges. AB 39 brings us closer to that goal. For these reasons, **CETPA supports AB 39**, and we ask that you vote "aye" when the measure comes before you. If you have questions about our position, please contact Nick Romley at (916) 557-9745 or nick@capitoladvisors.org.

Sincerely,

Andrea Bennett
Executive Director, CETPA