1863

CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Established

Speaking Out for All Students and Educators

It's safe to say that CTA has fought for, lobbied for, and run election and initiative campaigns for more resources for better schools every single year since 1863. One of our earliest achievements, in fact, was convincing the Legislature to provide free public schools for all students, back in 1866.

There were many fights for funding over the years, but one of the most "revolutionary" feats CTA accomplished in the past 150 years was the passage of Proposition 98 in 1988. Prop 98 is the only provision in the constitution of any state that guarantees K-14 public education a certain amount of the state budget. It is the lifeblood of school funding in California.

CTA has stood up to several statewide initiatives that would have hurt public schools. We've fought three school voucher initiatives over a 10-year period that would have led to more privatization of our public schools. Voters apparently agreed with us and soundly defeated each initiative, the most recent being Prop. 38 in 2000.

In 1978, CTA also successfully fought Prop. 6, the Briggs Initiative, which would have banned lesbians and gays from working in California schools.

In the past 14 years, CTA helped defeat three propositions that would have prevented labor unions from spending members' dues on campaigns, effectively eliminating them as a major political force by silencing their voices.

That's one promise CTA has made to its members over and over again. Its voice will not be silenced.

ses·qui·cen·ten·ni·al [ses-kwi-sen-ten-ee-uhl]
adjective 1. pertaining to or marking the completion of a period of 150 years. *noun* 2. a 150th anniversary or its celebration.

CTA ANNIVERSARY 150

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