

FROM: THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION
cfa@calfac.org - <http://www.calfac.org>

CFA HEADLINES

August 4, 2009 · Weekly news digest from CFA

FURLOUGHS

- New FAQ answers your questions on furloughs
- Still have questions? Submit an email

THE STATE BUDGET

- Final budget plan hurts Californians
- Faculty letters on budget cuts

OTHER NEWS

- Support East Bay auto workers

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FURLOUGHS

· NEW FAQ ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ON FURLOUGHS

A new frequently asked questions document (FAQ) released today by CFA aims to answer your important questions about the furlough side letter.

The document covers general questions about the furlough as well as specifics on workload, scheduling of furlough days, and special situations.

To view the FAQ, go to:

http://www.calfac.org/allpdf/Budget_09_10/FAQ_onfurlough_0804.pdf

· STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? SUBMIT AN EMAIL

Faculty members who still have questions about furloughs after reading the FAQ can send an email to: furloughsandbudgetcuts@calfac.org

Please do not reply to CFA Headlines with your questions.

THE STATE BUDGET

· FINAL BUDGET PLAN HURTS CALIFORNIANS

With the ink barely dry on the state budget deal, families, children, college students, seniors, and people with disabilities are already feeling the devastating effects of this flawed spending plan.

This year's budget will mean that:

- Up to 785,000 children could lose healthcare
- 1.3 million seniors and people with disabilities will have their income cut, again
- Tens of thousands of seniors and people with disabilities could lose home care services
- 6.3 million children will go to schools that are overcrowded and understaffed
- Over \$3.7 billion has been taken away from our local cities, counties, and redevelopment agencies for vital local services and projects
- With a 20% cut, colleges and universities will furlough faculty and staff, turn away qualified students, cut classes, raise fees, and seriously affect the quality of higher education in California.

While these cuts are devastating, things could have been much worse had CFA members and labor allies not ratcheted up public pressure on the Governor and members of the legislature by making phone calls, visiting lawmakers both at the Capitol and in their districts, participated in rallies and teach-ins to make sure the voice of the CSU was heard.

And as a result of this work, several critical programs were cut deeply – but not eliminated:

- Cal Grants for college students will continue
- Home care survived
- CalWORKS was cut deeply, but survived
- Healthy Families survived with a 50% cut
- \$11 billion in recent K-14 education cuts will be repaid, and the legal minimum funding level will not be suspended

For “quick and dirty” analysis of the governor's budget plan, read the latest publication from the California Budget Project at:

http://www.cbp.org/documents/090727_Governor_Signs_Budget.pdf

• FACULTY OP/ED PUBLISHED

The Los Angeles Daily News published two Op/Ed articles from faculty members last week decrying budget cuts to higher education.

On Thursday, an Op/Ed from Kristyan Kouri of Northridge underscored the uphill battle Lecturers face on campus during this time of budget upheaval.

Then on Tuesday, a piece by Enrique Ochoa of Los Angeles was published that discussed the how the future of California depends on a strong CSU.

Both Op/Ed's can be viewed at: <http://www.calfac.org/inthenews.html>

OTHER NEWS

- SUPPORT EAST BAY AUTO WORKERS

Your help is needed to help save the jobs of 4,700 unionized auto workers who could lose their jobs if a plant in Fremont is closed.

The bankruptcy of GM threatens the future of UAW workers at this plant and tens of thousands of supplier and support workers throughout California.

Union members, locals Labor Councils, state agencies and state/national AFL-CIO are working closely together to make a strong argument for keeping the plant open.

You may have seen newspaper ads in local papers last week, or heard media quotes from leaders like Sergio Santos, UAW 2244 president, who told the San Jose Mercury News: "We will do our part to keep the plant running and make sure we have jobs."

You can help! Do these 3 things today:

1 - Sign the UAW petition to President Obama and Congress asking them to investigate and support ways to keep the NUMMI plant open. The petition can be found at: <http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/nummi>

2 - Plan now to join the UAW and the Alameda Labor Council at Lobby Day, August 19, to advocate for state legislation that supports the plant's future. Email webmaster@alamedalabor.org if are interested in participating.

3 - Pass along information about this crisis to friends, family and co-workers, particularly those in the East Bay.

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See back issues of CFA Headlines, sent each Tuesday, at <http://www.calfac.org/headlines.html>

Update your contact info in the CFA member database at the "Help Desk" at <http://www.calfac.org>

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