



League of California Cities-Latino Caucus

May 31, 2013

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California State Governor
Governor Jerry Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

The League of California Cities Latino Caucus would like to express its gratitude and support for your new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). The current funding system is outdated, irrational and inequitable. The students of California can't wait. They've been waiting for years –decades in some instances – while the adults have conducted research, made policy recommendations, offered specific legislative language, and held numerous public hearings to address the flaws in our school funding system. California is about to make significant, necessary investments in education. We must do that in a rational, transparent, flexible and equitable way.

We support school finance reform that ensures:

- No school district loses funding as we transition to the new formula;
- There is equal access to base funding for students across the state, something we have long talked about, but have yet to achieve;
- There are meaningful additional investments in the students with the highest needs;
- Investments in high need students are made in a more rational way and the students and schools who generate the additional dollars, benefit from those dollars;
- Districts have the flexibility to determine how to improve educational outcomes among all groups of students in response to being held accountable for raising student achievement across the board; and
- Districts have stability and time to plan for future investments during the multi-year transition.

LCFF is the right thing to do for students in California. Our constituents are learning English, obtaining additional resources to educate our neediest students requires a financial commitment from the state so we can help these students succeed. As League of California Cities Latino Caucus, we urge our state policymakers to work together to ensure LCFF is adopted in the budget this year.

Sincerely,

Diane J. Martinez
President, League of California Cities Latino Caucus