

# CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA  
95814

May 1, 2017

The Honorable Holly Mitchell  
Chair, Senate Budget Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5080  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
State Capitol, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee 1  
State Capitol, Room 3086  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Kevin McCarty  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2  
State Capitol, Room 2136  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## **RE: After School Education and Safety Budget Request**

Dear Budget Chairs,

We respectfully request for an increase in annual funding for the After School Education and Safety (ASES) program of \$99,135,000, beginning in the 2017-18 fiscal year. We also request that funding for the ASES program be raised in subsequent fiscal years to account for ensuing minimum wage increases.

As you know, in 2002 voters passed Proposition 49 which made a commitment to provide funding for before and after school programs throughout California. Today, California's ASES program operates in over 4,000 elementary and middle schools across the state, serving more than 400,000 students daily. Despite its widespread use over the last decade, funding for the statewide ASES program has remained stagnant while operating costs have continuously increased.

ASES programs provide students with academic and enrichment activities, keep kids safely off the streets, and offer necessary child care for working families. Research shows that after school programs provide a variety of benefits to students including improved school attendance, English fluency, academic success, crime prevention, and social-emotional skill development. In addition to these social and academic benefits, ASES programs save the state between \$2 to \$9 dollars for every \$1 invested.

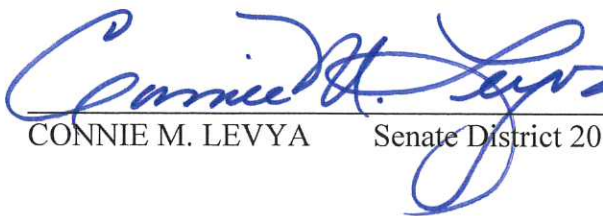
These programs also provide quality child care to underserved families and academic programs to some of California's neediest students. ASES programs serve families in low-income, high poverty areas and operate at schools where 80 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price meal programs.

ASES programs have been stretched to their breaking point. Recent increases in the minimum wage and state mandated paid sick leave have raised operating costs while the Average Daily Attendance rates for ASES (\$7.50 per child) have not been increased since 2006. If funding remains stagnant, as many as 29 percent of all programs in the state will have to close their doors within two years, denying access to approximately 120,000 students.

This dramatic reduction in access will leave tens of thousands of students without much needed educational enrichment opportunities and thousands of working families without childcare that they can afford. It is critical for the success of our students, families, and the state that we continue to support after school programs and California's highest need students.


We thank you for your favorable consideration of our request.

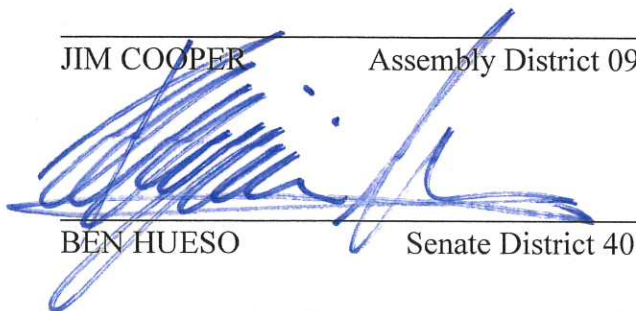
Sincerely,

  
CONNIE M. LEVYA      Senate District 20

  
MIGUEL SANTIAGO      Assembly District 53


  
JIM COOPER      Assembly District 09

  
MIKE MCGUIRE      Senate District 2

  
BEN HUESO      Senate District 40

  
BEN ALLEN      Senate District 26

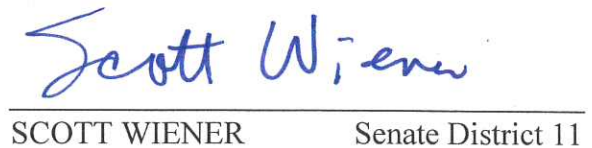
  
ANDY VIDAK      Senate District 14


  
JIM COOPER      Assembly District 09  
ADP

  
JERRY HILL      Senate District 13

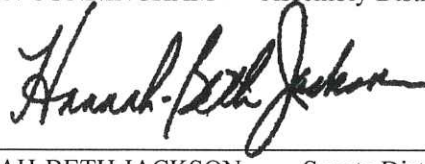
  
BILL DODD      Senate District 03

  
KEVIN MULLIN      Assembly District 22

  
SCOTT WIENER      Senate District 11

  
JORDAN CUNNINGHAM Assembly District 35

  
JIM BEALL Senate District 15

  
HANNAH-BETH JACKSON Senate District 19

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