March 21, 2002

Re: AB2236 Support

Assemblymember Judy Chu
State Capitol Room 5126
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Chu:

I am [Insert information about yourself or your organization] and we strongly support AB2236 which guarantees all California students access to the tools of learning they need to enter a four-year state university, obtain a living wage job, and participate in civic life.

As you know, currently many schools are not safe and conducive to learning, many lack qualified teachers, and often schools do not have instructional materials for learning the state's curriculum standards. Californians stand ready to address these conditions in schools, but they are hampered by two obstacles: Students, parents, and members of the public often lack necessary information to determine whether the basic conditions for learning are present at their schools; and the public has no systematic way to bring their concerns to the attention of education officials when these conditions are not met.

I am writing in support of AB 2236, which will reinforces the legislature’s threefold intention: to provide all students with high quality educational opportunities; to give students, parents, and members of the public specific and up to date information about how well these opportunities are brought to students; and to honor the participation of all Californians who strive to work on behalf of California's students and schools. More specifically, AB 2236:

- Establishes the intent of the legislature to develop and support a state-wide system of schools that insures the basic tools of learning – what we term an "Educational Bill of Rights."

- Requires schools, districts, and the state to identify education officials who will be responsible for insuring that these tools are provided to all students.

- Calls upon schools, districts, and the state to solicit public input on the provision of these tools and report annually on their progress in insuring high quality educational opportunities for all students.

AB2236 is a necessary step in providing students, parents, teachers and administrators with the tools and information they need to hold the school system accountable for providing them with the education they deserve.

Sincerely,

[your name and organization]