



September 26, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 777 – Veto Request

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

On behalf of the hopes and dreams of millions of California fathers and mothers of children in public schools, Campaign for Children and Families requests that you veto SB 777 (Kuehl). The effect of this school sexual indoctrination bill is the same as last year's SB 1437 (Kuehl), which you also vetoed.

It is worthwhile to note that the Legislative Counsel's title of last year's bill, "School instruction: prohibition of discriminatory content" is the crux of the controversy surrounding this year's bill. Here's how SB 777 mandate sexual indoctrination upon students:

SEC. 29. Section 51500 of the Education Code is amended to read:
51500. No teacher shall give instruction nor shall a school district sponsor any activity that promotes a discriminatory bias because of a characteristic listed in Section 220.

By inserting "sexual orientation" and "gender" into Education Code, Sections 210.7 through 220, and by re-defining "gender" to no longer mean male or female, SB 777 requires all California public elementary and secondary schools, community colleges, and universities to promote transsexuality, bisexuality, and homosexuality to children as young as kindergarten. Please see the "connect the dots" enclosure.

SB 777 is a radical departure from our school's focus on academic standards. By focusing on various kinds of sexual lifestyles, and imposing new mandates on all school instruction and every school activity, SB 777 would "dumb down" our schools and create conflicts between parents, students, teachers, and administrators.

For all practical purposes, under SB 777, for a school district to prove that there is no "discriminatory bias" in their textbooks, classroom instruction, and school activities, the district would have to *positively* portray various sexual lifestyles in all school instruction and activities. Otherwise, they will be subject to intimidation and lawsuits by the California Department of Education.

Consider that currently there are no *negative* portrayals of transsexuality, bisexuality, or homosexuality in California schools. This demonstrates that SB 777 is unnecessary to accomplish its stated goal, and, if implemented, would no longer allow appropriate silence on these sexual lifestyles.

Furthermore, SB 777 is not about “safety” nor is it about unfair “discrimination.” Consider that, if current laws were truly inadequate, this bill would not restate so many Penal Code and Education Code provisions, which already prohibit violence and threats of violence on school campuses.

Governor, this bill is unnecessary, as most of its provisions are existing law. Yet SB 777 introduces new mandates that will sexually indoctrinate schoolchildren as young as kindergarten. Never before have local schools been forced by the State of California to provide instruction regarding various sexual lifestyles.

SB 777 would require curriculum and activities in every public school, public college, and public university to portray transsexual and bisexual “parents” as the norm. This bill would teach schoolchildren that there is no such thing as the natural family – a father, a mother, and their children.

The purpose of California schools must be academics, not indoctrination. With test scores still much too low, California should concentrate on the basics...reading, writing and arithmetic...not sexual indoctrination that parents don't want and children don't need.

For these reasons, please veto SB 777 as you vetoed the author's similar bill last year. This bill would take California schools backward, not forward.

Sincerely,

Randy Thomasson
President
Campaign for Children and Families

Enclosure