



*California Association of School Business Officials* [www.casbo.org](http://www.casbo.org)  
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September 7, 2004

Ms. Cathy Poncabare  
Expert Witness Liaison  
California Performance Review Commission  
c/o Office of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Poncabare:

On behalf of the California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO) and its more than 4,000 school finance and administrative managers, we are writing to express our position on several of the proposals contained in the recently released report by the California Performance Review Commission.

**SUPPORT Issue ETV 09:** CASBO supports this proposal to establish qualifications for Chief Business Officials. As a leader in this industry, we believe that it is urgent that we continue to provide the highest quality training for fiscal leadership in California schools. Education fiscal officers manage billions of dollars—training is important to assure that taxpayer dollars are effectively spent for the delivery of public education.

**SUPPORT Issue ETV 10:** CASBO supports the establishment of performance-based contracts between the state and K-12 school districts and believes this is an innovative and clever way to streamline categorical programs and link educational progress with local control on how categorical funds can be spent.

**SUPPORT Issue GG 06:** CASBO supports increasing Lottery sales and funding to public education and believes we must examine new and innovative ways to enhance revenues from the Lottery. While we do not endorse any particular proposal, we are open to considering proposals that boost per-pupil funding.

**SUPPORT Issue ETV 06:** CASBO supports changing current law that restricts a school agency's ability to contract out for non-instructional services when it is more cost effective and efficient to do so and supports the repeal of SB 1419, which became effective January 1, 2003.

OPPOSE: ETV 05: CASBO opposes the CPR recommendation to eliminate county offices of education and believes the current structure is appropriate for providing special education services and fiscal oversight of the 1,000+ school districts in California. CASBO also believes this proposal is inconsistent with the “*Williams*” settlement, which places new responsibilities with county superintendents.

And finally, CASBO opposes the Commission’s recommendation to eliminate the Quality Education Commission (QEC), which was established as part of the K-12 Master Plan Committee. The QEC is charged with reviewing the adequacy of funding of California public schools and determining whether the funding is commensurate with the world class academic standards that have been adopted by the state. We think it is critical to assess what is needed to adequately fund our schools.

Thank you for your consideration of our positions

Sincerely,

KEVIN GORDON  
Executive Director