

California Teachers Association

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS DIVISION

1118 10th Street Suite 300 Sacramento, California 95814-3877

Phone: 916-442-5895 FAX: 916-442-6346 March 31, 1992

The Honorable Rebecca Q. Morgan Vice Chairman, Senate Education Committee State Capitol, Room 4090 Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 1448 (Hart)

POSITION: OPPOSE

Dear Senator Morgan:

This is to inform you that the California Teachers Association has changed its position on SB 1448 (Hart) to OPPOSE. This measure will be heard in the Senate Education Committee on April 1.

CTA's concerns over certain key provisions of this bill have not been alleviated by the recent amendments to the legislation. These concerns include:

-- The creation of a class of public school employees who could be hired at sub-standard wages and benefits and without benefit of STRS coverage;

--A blanket exemption for charter schools of virtually all Education Code provisions and State Department rules and regulations. We feel that only those regulations and provisions of law which interfere with the program of a charter school should be waived through the formal waiver process;

--Ignoring the exclusive bargaining agent in the development of charter school proposals and in the process for approval of these proposals. CTA believes that failure to involve exclusive representatives in the process of reform would be counterproductive. It would breed mistrust and defensiveness.

More importantly, it is not necessary. There are examples throughout the nation of educational restructure which were created by the collective bargaining process. We believe that reforms created mutually by all parties of interest in such matters are the most effective.

This is not to say that CTA does not see potential in the charter school concept. We submitted an extensive set of amendments to the author last month. These amendments would have alleviated our most serious concerns. Unfortunately, we were unable to reach agreement on most of them.

Therefore, CTA urges a NO vote on SB 1448.

Sincerely,

Ernest F. Ciarrocchi Legislative Advocate

cc: Senator Gary Hart

The Office of Senate Floor Analyses

EFC/vt

This letter has also been sent to each member of the Senate Education Committee.

mea