

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 30, 2011

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

AB 114 directs schools to adhere to the level of state funding provided in the Budget and not assume a different, or lower, state funding level. If, in fact, revenues fall far short of projections – something we don't anticipate – this bill reduces funding beginning in February. It also provides schools the authority to shorten the school year by up to 7 days. This approach avoids the harmful effects of unnecessary cuts.

In fashioning their local budgets, school boards may nevertheless need to make reductions due to cost increases, loss of federal funds, enrollment declines or other factors. AB 114 does not interfere with these local school board decisions. School boards should take all reasonable steps to balance their budgets and to maintain positive cash balances.

Let us not forget that schools would have enjoyed billions more in state funding if Republicans in the Legislature had allowed the people of California to vote on tax extensions.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Ir