

OPINIONS & LETTERS

Liar, Liar, Pants On Fire

By Larry Carballo

It's amazing that so many Californians were wishing Arnold the very best when he was elected governor. Why shouldn't we? He was personable enough, had nice hair and teeth, was a celebrity of sorts, and was married to Maria Shriver. Besides, he said he wasn't one of the "special interests" who had taken over the state government in Sacramento.

the public schools an increase over last year, so he doesn't have to back up his promise to the kids of California.

The problem, of course, is the increase does not improve the conditions of one public school since the funding is to keep up with increased student enrollments. Therefore, the funding keeps the status quo, but in no way does it make the situation any better.

Arnold, shame on you for attacking the

COLUMN LEFT

Well, now we know what special interests he was talking about – teachers, nurses, policemen, and firemen. Come on, governor, any simpleton knows you don't call people who serve our communities the "special interest" bad guys.

We have been public school teachers for several years now, and we can promise you that no profession sacrifices and works more than teachers, except, of course, if we are talking about nurses, policemen, and firemen.

As teachers, we are appalled that he would promise to our teachers and legislators that he would return the \$2 billion he kept from last year's budget.

As Californians remember, the voters passed Proposition 98, which guaranteed the public schools a certain level of funding. Even with 98, California public schools rank in the bottom ten in the nation for school funding per student. Nevertheless, teachers have learned to be patient with the politicians who hold the budget-cutting knife over our students' heads.

Okay, Arnold, teachers and legislators said, we will allow you to withhold the money the state owes the public schools so long as it is returned the following year. Now Arnold says that he is already giving

very groups who had wished you well when you were first elected. Now we are disillusioned and disappointed that you would turn on the very people who care the most about teaching our children, healing our sick, and protecting us from criminals and fires.

Shame on you for lying to us about returning the \$2 billion that the state owes us this year. Shame on you for trying to jeopardize the pensions of the very people who trusted you on election day.

Your wife has told Oprah that she would like to have you home more. We suggest you take her advice. And while you're there, do your homework to see who really is responsible for the fiscal problems of California. So far, you have earned an "F" with teachers.

But not to worry. We teachers are willing to give you another chance. We instill in our students the value of telling the truth and being honest – it's the American way. So do the right thing, and return the funding that the public schools are entitled under Proposition 98. Who knows -- maybe we will even give you a passing mark.

Larry Carballo is a member of the Hubert Humphrey Democratic Club

Text of Article

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Larry Caballero
Newsletter Editor, Hubert Humphrey Democratic Club

It's amazing that so many Californians were wishing Arnold the very best when he was elected governor. Why shouldn't we? He was personable enough, had nice hair and teeth, was a celebrity of sorts, and was married to Maria Shriver. Besides, he said he wasn't one of the "special interests" who had taken over the state government in Sacramento.

Well, now we know what special interests he was talking about--teachers, nurses, policemen, and firemen. Come on, governor, any simpleton knows you don't call people who serve our communities the "special interest" bad guys.

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Okay, Arnold, teachers and legislators said, we will allow you to withhold the money the state owes the public schools so long as it is returned the following year. Now Arnold says that he is already giving the public schools an increase over last year, so he doesn't have to back up his promise to the kids of California.

The problem, of course, is the increase does not improve the conditions of one public school since the funding is to keep up with increased student enrollments. Therefore, the funding keeps the status quo, but in no way does it make the situation any better.

Arnold, shame on you for attacking the very groups who had wished you well when you were first elected. Now we are disillusioned and disappointed that you would turn on the very people who care the most about teaching our children, healing our sick, and protecting us from criminals and fires. Shame on you for lying to us about returning the \$2 billion that the state owes us this year. Shame on you for trying to jeopardize the pensions of the very people who trusted you on election day.

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