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Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 11:42 AM

Subject: Red Alert – Immediate Action Needed to Halt Late Start Time Bill

Later school start times in California gain steam in Legislature

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"Later school start times in California gain steam in Legislature"

That was the [headline in today's Sacramento Bee](#). Clearly, **we've reached a crucial point in our efforts to defeat Senate Bill 328** and we need your help (even if you have already made a call) to ensure that local teachers, parents, school boards and communities set school start times – not Sacramento politicians.

Our opponents are feeling confident and the author expects a vote on the bill next week. We need your support to stop their momentum! It's all hands on deck – **please contact your representative today and tell them to vote "NO" on the SB 328 late start time bill.**

Take Action!

1. Call your Assemblymember's Capitol Office:

- [Assembly Roster / Phone list](#)



- [Find your Assemblymember](#)

2. Tell whomever answers the phone your name, title and school district/county office of education name.

3. Tell him/her that you are calling to ask the Assemblymember to vote “No” on Senate Bill 328 (Portantino), the school start time bill, when it is heard on the Assembly Floor.

Helpful links:

[SB 328 FAQ](#) | [Fact sheet on SB 328](#) | [SB 328 bill text](#) (Amended 8/16/18) | [9/14/17 SB 328 Assembly votes](#)

Emphasize that:

- **CSBA does *not* oppose later start times. CSBA opposes a statewide mandate** on school start times.
- **Diverse needs:** In a state as diverse as California, local teachers, parents and governing boards should retain the right to determine whether late start times are the right fit for their students, and if so, how much later their schools should start.
- **Class bias:** Not all parents can change their work schedules to accommodate a later start time. The mandate in SB 328 would have a disproportionate impact on laborers and service industry workers who have less scheduling flexibility than many people in more affluent communities.
- **Student safety:** There are far fewer programs and activities in the morning that offer supervision for students and can help ensure their safety. SB 328’s late start time mandate means more children would be unsupervised in the morning if their transportation arrives at the same time it does currently, but school begins at a later hour.
- **Transportation:** Many school districts and county offices of education are facing mounting cost pressures for home-to-school transportation, requiring them to stretch school start times over a wider span of time to meet local demand. SB 328 would reduce the ability of schools to adapt to the transportation needs of students and families.
- **End times (extracurriculars, job opportunities and athletics):** Later school start times result in later end times, which would affect a wide range of activities that

middle school and high school students should have access to, such as school clubs and extracurricular activities, sports (because school must stagger athletic practice and competition to provide students with access to fields and gyms), community college courses or part-time jobs.

- **We need to empower local communities** as they work to meet the unique needs of their students, not issue mandates from Sacramento that ignore local conditions and local knowledge.

Questions? Contact Governmental Relations



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