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California Community Schools Advocacy Network

We're building a statewide network of advocates with a shared vision: **To create a supportive policy environment for community schools in California.**

Join us.

Chronic Absence Update State-Level Policy and Advocacy Opportunity

Chronic absence—defined as a student missing more than 10% of the school year—has been identified as a critical predictor of school success and high school completion, even in the earliest grades. Tracking chronic absence can provide critical data for community school partners to identify student needs and create responsive program and service arrays.

Support Senate Bill 1357

SB 1357 (Steinberg) requires the California Department of Education to include data on student absences in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), contingent upon the receipt of federal funding for this purpose.

On June 22, 2010, SB 1357 received unanimous support in the Assembly Education Committee. **The bill will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 4, 2010.**

- **More** on SB 1357 | **Download a fact sheet >>**

Action Item

Add your organization to a coalition letter to the Assembly Education Committee in support of SB 1357. Organizations wishing to be added can send a request, along with their logo, to **Brad Strong** of Children Now (bstrong@childrennow.org).

- **Read** the SB 1357 coalition support letter | **Download >>**
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Federal Policy News

DIPLOMA Act (S.3595) Introduced by US Senators Brown and Sanders

Bill Encourages Shared, Comprehensive Approach to Education

On July 15, 2010, US Sens. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) introduced legislation that would help states meet the challenges influencing student achievement by promoting a shared, comprehensive approach to education. The **Developing Innovative Partnerships and Learning Opportunities that Motivate Achievement Act** (DIPLOMA) would help states and school districts steadily close the achievement gap by building integrated, collaborative systems to support children by making schools the centers of community.

- **More** from Coalition for Community Schools | [Visit >>](#)

Read a [press release from Senator Brown >>](#)

Get a summary of S.3595 the [DIPLOMA Act >>](#)

Additional Action Item

Sign Onto a Nationwide ESEA Reauthorizatoin Support Letter

Show Your Organization's Support for Our Recommendations to Strengthen 21st Century Community Learning Centers Funding

Partnership for Children and Youth is proud to be uniquely positioned as an advisor to Representative George Miller (D-CA), Chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, with regard to the development of his out-of-school-time and expanded day policies in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Join us in a nationwide letter of support to express our thoughts on policy direction for the reauthorization of the 21st Community Learning Centers program (21st CCLC).

- **Read** the letter and **sign on** | [Learn more >>](#)
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Questions, Ideas, Feedback or Strategies?

Please contact

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