

From: [Sonya Christian](#)
To: [Cindy Collier](#); [Anthony Culpepper](#); [Laura Lorigo](#); [John Gerhold](#); [Jeffrey Looker](#); [John Bolton](#); [Meg Stidham](#); [Nick Strobel](#); [Somaly Boles](#)
Subject: FW: LA Times Article: Governor's Opposition to School Bond
Date: Monday, February 22, 2016 3:44:48 PM

Budget Committee:

FYI

sonya

From: Rebekah Cearley [rcearley@m-w-h.com]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 11:34 AM
To: C.M. Brahmhatt; Ed Maduli; Eric Mittlestead; Felix Hernandez; Fred Diamond; Jerry Marchbank; Karen Powell; Mansour Aliabadi; Pablo Manzo; Praful Kulkarni; Sherman Wong; Williard Lewallen; Willy Duncan
Cc: Jessica Contreras
Subject: LA Times Article: Governor's Opposition to School Bond

Good morning,

The following article ran in today's LA Times and includes the Governor's public statement that he is opposing the CQS school bond. This is not an unexpected announcement, especially given efforts over the past week to develop an alternative proposal. The key question will be what actions result from this statement of opposition; there are many political issues and nuances at play here. The article also notes that the Legislature will not be advancing an alternative proposal, confirming what we discussed yesterday. C.A.S.H. and CBIA will be staying the course with their bond, continuing to build a strong, broad coalition of support.

Gov. Jerry Brown opposes \$9-billion school bond measure

By Melanie Mason

February 12, 2016

Governor [Jerry Brown](#) on Thursday came out against a \$9-billion school bond measure that will go before voters in November, erecting a political hurdle for advocates of new spending on school construction.

"I am against the developers' \$9-billion bond," Brown said in a statement to The Times. "It's a blunderbuss effort that promotes sprawl and squanders money that would be far better spent in low-income communities."

Brown has hinted in the past at his displeasure with the ballot proposal.

When he unveiled his budget plan last month, the governor said the bond measure would not change the state program that determines how school facilities are built and maintained. That process prioritizes districts that submit early applications for projects — which Brown said favors affluent districts over cash-strapped ones.

"The Legislature could do a better job than the developers who put that one together," Brown said at the time.

But lawmakers' efforts to craft a smaller bond have stagnated.

Representatives for Senate leader Kevin de León (D-Los Angeles) and Assembly Speaker [Toni Atkins](#) (D-San Diego) confirmed that legislators will not be voting on an alternative measure in time to meet state election deadlines for the June primary ballot.

Outright opposition from Brown could prove politically damaging for the larger proposal. The governor notches high marks from Californians: 60% of registered voters approve of his job performance, according to a January poll by the Public Policy Institute of California.

But the \$9-billion bond has racked up its own cadre of influential supporters, including the California Chamber of Commerce, the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California and [Tom Torlakson](#), the superintendent of public instruction. Nearly a dozen legislators also have endorsed the measure.

Under the proposal sponsored by the Coalition for Adequate School Housing, a group promoting new construction, and the California Building Industry Assn., most of the money would go toward building and upgrading K-12 facilities.

The proposal includes \$2 billion for community college projects.

"California is facing at least \$20 billion in projected school facilities needs over the next decade, and we have sponsored this bond to make sure school

districts can continue to partner with the state to create quality learning environments for all students," David Walrath of the Coalition for Adequate School Housing said in a statement.

"Our measure will continue this important school bond program that has been supported by the past three governors, and which our supporters — including the business community, school districts, elected officials from both sides of the aisle and labor — all agree is needed to ensure California's students have modern and safe classrooms," he said.

melanie.mason@latimes.com

<http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-pol-sac-jerry-brown-school-bond-20160212-story.html>

Rebekah Cearley | *Legislative Advocate*

Murdoch Walrath & Holmes

1303 J Street, Suite 520 | Sacramento | CA 95814

Ph: (916) 441-3300 | Fax (916) 441-3893 | rcearley@m-w-h.com

www.m-w-h.com