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California Association of Private School Organizations

March 31, 2003

Hon. Keith Richman
State Capitol, Room 5128
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to AB 424 (Richman) unless amended

Please list the California Association of Private School Organizations as **opposed** to AB 424 ***unless all amendments referenced in this letter are incorporated into the bill.***

Dear Assemblyman Richman,

I write to express CAPSO's opposition to AB 424, as introduced, and to request that the bill be amended as proposed by the Independent Private Schools of California in that organization's correspondence of March 21, 2003.

California's private schools are civic minded, fiscally responsible, socially and philosophically diverse, high achieving, and directly accountable to the students and parents they educate. Moreover, our private schools save California's taxpayers *at least* \$6 billion per year. There is no need to revoke and/or revise laws relating to schools that have long demonstrated a history of self-sufficiency and high achievement.

Moreover, the bill indicates that any proposed revisions to the Education Code to be issued by the Commission it would establish are to be expressly limited to *public* education (page 30, lines 7-9). The retention of current Code sections relating to private education (as proposed by the Independent Private Schools of California) will, therefore, serve to assure the internal consistency of the measure.

CAPSO is the state's largest consortium of private school organizations, whose members provide service to more than 80% of California's 648,000 private school children, their teachers, schools and families.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ron Reynolds
Executive Director

CC: Assembly Education Committee Members, Jim Davis, John Gilroy, Roger Magyar, Kerry Mazzone, Paul Navarro, Robert A. Teegarden

CAPSO is an affiliate of the Council for American Private Education