teenNow CALIFORNIA

Preventing Teen Pregnancies, Supporting Young Families

Petition to Save Cal-SAFE Programs

We, the undersigned ask that legislators and the Governor of the State of California preserve the California School Age Families Education programs (Cal-SAFE) by demanding that the program be moved into Tier I of education programs. Cal-SAFE includes more than 150 programs around the state, which in turn serve more than 30,000 student parents and 20,000 of their young children. The Cal-SAFE program has been very successful in preventing second pregnancies, helping teen parents complete their high school education, and providing excellent early care and education for the young children of young parents, helping them to grow and develop into healthy, school-ready children. Our communities need these programs, to help break the cycles of poverty, academic failure and teen pregnancy.

We ask for lawmakers' help to preserve this vital program that saves taxpayer money by increasing the graduation rate of student parents, along with providing necessary early care and education programs for children of teen parents. The Cal-SAFE program is vital to increasing opportunities for young parents and their children, to help them better provide for and protect their families. Cuts to this program would place an unfair burden only on our most vulnerable populations, and would only increase California's fiscal problems in the future. Without adequate funding to Cal-SAFE, these and other young families will no longer have access to the programs and services Cal-SAFE offers, and will instead rely increasingly on public assistance, or receive no support whatsoever.

These programs are too important to the youth of California to eliminate them. Please reconsider the proposed cuts and let your constituents know that you care about the youth of your community—the future of all of us.

Name	Zip Code	Age	Gender	Race