“Californians know we must invest in improving the quality and performance of our public schools, but they also want to ensure strict accountability for the use of taxpayer funds. This new initiative will allow us to do both, and that’s why I offered to chair the campaign to pass it in November.”

-Governor Gray Davis

"I am pleased to join Governor Gray Davis and announce my support for the School Improvement and Accountability Act. One of the highest priorities during my governorship involved the development of an unprecedented class-size reduction program. This measure will give local communities a realistic opportunity to build and improve classrooms necessary to expand those successful programs, for lack of classroom space has been an impediment to doing so. Furthermore, the enhanced accountability requirements included will help to protect taxpayers and homeowners from wasteful spending."

-Former Governor Pete Wilson

"Studies confirm that class size reduction improves student performance, but unless more classrooms are built, students won't benefit from the program."

-Lavonne McBroom, President of the California State PTA

“We owe it to our children, our teachers, our workforce and our economy to put a new measure before voters. This measure will empower local communities with a realistic opportunity to invest in the building and safety of local schools when they are convinced there is a need.”

-Reed Hastings, CEO of NetFlix.com.

“This initiative requires two independent audits annually to ensure that the money has been spent properly and as the school district promised. We need these never before safeguards to make sure that bond money goes to classrooms, not administrative costs or salaries.”

-Bill Hauck, California Business Roundtable

“This measure is a desperately needed, responsible step to repairing our outdated, overcrowded school facilities and providing technologically updated classrooms.”

-Silicon Valley venture capitalist John Doerr of Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers

“Educating California’s future generations is essential to the continued economic vitality of our state. We need to improve our schools to better educate students for the next generation workforce.”

-Allan Zaremberg, President, California Chamber of Commerce

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“Seniors who want to make sure that our tax dollars are spent directly on improving schools and classrooms should support this initiative because of the strict accountability standards that it would finally establish.”

-Bill Powers, Legislative Director, Congress of California Seniors

"If we expect our kids to move from classrooms to boardrooms, then we must support and pass this proposition. Sixth grade students shouldn't suffer through leaky roofs, no computers and overcrowded classrooms if we want them to become the next David Packard, Steve Wozniak, or Carly Fiorina."

-Carl Guardino, President and CEO of the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group

“As grandparents, we want to make sure children have clean, safe schools to attend. As homeowners, we want to make sure we’re protected from wasteful spending of our tax dollars. The School Improvement and Accountability Act strikes a needed balance that will help provide our children with the schools they deserve, while enacting tough accountability standards to protect homeowners and taxpayers.”

-Peter Szego, Chair, State Legislative Committee, AARP

“Studies have shown that students view poor school conditions as a reflection of society’s lack of concern for their education. As a result, their behavior is negatively affected by this interpretation. It’s time to show our children we care.”

-Sandy Clifton-Bacon, President, ACSA

“The conditions of our schools, particularly in under-served communities, are simply unacceptable if we expect to give our children a fair shot at success. This measure empowers local voters to pass needed bonds when the community decides there is a need.”

-Andrew Ysiano, Former President of the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

“Our children are our future, and we can fail them no longer. This initiative protects against fraud and prohibits the use of funds for bureaucratic salaries, so we can build safe schools.”

-Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan

“As parents and teachers, we see first hand the deteriorating conditions of the schools we send our children to every day. The School Improvement and Accountability Act will give local parents and communities a fair chance to build and repair the schools needed to make California schools great again and expand beneficial programs such as class size reduction.

-Ann Desmond, Director of Legislation of the California State PTA

“If we do not pass this measure in November, we will not be able to provide the facilities for young people to learn in. If we don’t do that, the quality of life for everyone in California suffers as well as the economic viability of our state.”

-Bill Hauck, California Business Roundtable

"Let's put some muscle behind improving education. California schools are in terrible shape. There's certain irony here: California is the home to this wonderful tech industry, yet it is one of the worst states in the nation in terms of education and these facilities."

-Roberta Katz, CEO of Tech Net

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“Proponents of a school construction initiative aimed at the November ballot are demonstrating some of the speed, energy, and financing they’ll need if their late-out-of-the-gate campaign is to succeed. For the sake of California’s many overcrowded and sagging schools, we hope they do so.”

- *The Sacramento Bee*, Editorial, April 22, 2000

“School buildings still crumble; many classrooms still seem about to burst at the seams; equipment and other learning tools still age; the student population still increases. We’ve got to do something to help the next generation succeed. This initiative will be a good start.”

- *The Stockton Record*, Editorial, April 12, 2000

"A minority of voters in Madera has once again quashed the educational progress of deserving children in this community. ...Madera will continue to be known as the city that has never passed a school bond. It also will be known for having one of the most crowded high schools in the state...and the campus will look even more like a trailer park as more portables are loaded onto the grounds. There is hope, however. Governor Gray Davis is leading a group of educators, business executives and politicians trying to qualify a measure for the November ballot. The initiative, the School Improvement and Accountability Act, would lower the voter requirement for local school bonds from a two-thirds majority to 55%. Accountability measures, such as providing voters with a specific list of projects to be funded are part of the new proposal."

- *Fresno Bee*, Editorial, June 8, 2000

“Most of Cajon Valley's buildings are more than 30 years old. Rios Elementary's antiquated septic tank is subject to periodic back-ups. Meridian Elementary's ramshackle restrooms need refurbishing. Meantime, thousands of kids are being shoe-horned into 255 portable classrooms... Help could be on the way with the School Improvement and Accountability Act slated for the November statewide ballot.”

- *San Diego Union Tribune*, Editorial, July 23, 2000

"Taxpayers have asked that test scores come up. That's starting to happen. Now it's time we fix the classrooms we have and provide the classrooms we need. Prop 39 helps do that."


“Thousands of California children go to schools with conditions for which we really only have one word: slums.”

- *Los Angeles Times*, Opinion-Editorial, Professor at UCLA School of Law, Gary Balsi, May 19, 2000

“To accommodate a surging student population, composed overwhelmingly of the children of recent immigrants, the beleaguered (LA Unified) school district is going to have to build a new school every two weeks just to keep up.”