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Assembly Education Vice Chair Responds to New Campaign to Close California Schools

SACRAMENTO – Today Assembly Education Committee Vice Chair Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin) put out the following statement in response to the California Teachers Association’s recent call to close California schools:

“Parents, health experts, and a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers agree kids need to be back in the classroom. But despite the overwhelming evidence supporting a safe return, a large Sacramento union conglomerate – representing neither students nor teachers – has launched a statewide disinformation campaign to keep schools closed.

“State and local health officials continue to report that COVID-19 is not being spread in our schools. The classroom has become one of the safest places for California students and teachers to be, while the dangers of school closures continue to mount.

“If California’s Legislature and Governor give in to this Special Interest pressure instead of following the scientific consensus, it will be one of the most consequential failures of political leadership in our state’s history.”

Earlier this week the California Teachers Association launched a statewide campaign calling on its members to contact the Governor “and tell him that no school in counties with COVID-19 rates in the Purple tier should be open for in-person instruction.” They also sent a [letter to Legislators](#) stating, “schools in communities at Purple Tier levels of transmission and risk should not be open or reopen.”

Current California Department of Public Health guidelines allow schools to remain open under the Purple Tier and Health and Human Services Secretary Mark Ghaly and his team have stated on multiple occasions that [schools are not a source of community spread](#).

Assemblyman Kevin Kiley represents the 6th Assembly District, which includes the Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado County communities of Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, Fair Oaks, Folsom, Granite Bay, Lincoln, Loomis, Orangevale, Penryn, Rocklin, Roseville, and Sheridan.

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