



For Immediate Release
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Afterschool Leader Applauds Governor Schwarzenegger For Safeguarding Afterschool Funding

Statement of Jodi Grant, Executive Director, Afterschool Alliance

“Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger took a bold and badly needed step to ensure that California children will have safe, supervised activities after the school day ends by vetoing Assembly Bill 1526. Without this veto, it could have resulted in the legislature getting authority to substantially reduce afterschool funding or eliminate the state’s afterschool funding stream altogether.

If passed, this legislation could have been devastating to California’s families and communities. At a time when working parents are struggling to pay for food, transportation and housing, AB 1526 would have pulled the rug out from under them and left tens of thousands of kids without the afterschool programs they need while their parents are at work each afternoon.

We thank Governor Schwarzenegger for taking a strong stand on behalf of California’s children, and for making their well-being a priority for the state. Voters meant what they said when they approved Proposition 49 by an overwhelming margin in 2002.

Quality afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and help working families. They are a sound investment that pays dividends in the future. California must remain a leader in providing afterschool for all.”

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The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.