



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Attn: Ramon C. Cortines, Superintendent of Schools  
Office of the Superintendent  
333 S. Beaudry Ave., 24th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

October 27, 2010

Los Angeles County Board of Education  
9300 Imperial Highway  
Downey, CA 90242  
Attn: Thomas Saenz, Board President  
Douglas Boyd, Board Vice President  
Rudell Freer, Board Member  
Leslie Gilbert-Lurie, Board Member  
Gabriella Holt, Board Member  
Rebecca Turrentine, Ed.D, Board Member  
Maria Elena Yepes, Board Member

Re: Solicitation from Political Campaign Seeking Violation of State Law

**To the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Los Angeles County Board of Education:**

In abject ignorance of California state law, the political campaign of Senator Barbara Boxer has openly solicited teachers employed by LAUSD to urge their students to volunteer for her campaign. We trust that LAUSD will immediately inform all its personnel, credentialed or otherwise, that it would be a clear violation of law for teachers to recruit their students on school property during school hours to volunteer for a specific political campaign.

California Education Code, section 51520 states: “During school hours, and within one hour before the time of opening and within one hour after the time of closing of school, pupils of the public school shall not be solicited on school premises by teachers or others to subscribe or contribute to the funds of, to become members of, or to work for, any organization not directly under the control of the school authorities, unless the organization is a nonpartisan, charitable organization organized for charitable purposes by an act of Congress or under the laws of the state, the purpose of the solicitation is nonpartisan and charitable, and the solicitation has been approved by the county board of education or by the governing board of the school district in which the school is located. (emphasis supplied).

A “Dear Teachers” letter on Boxer campaign letterhead, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A, states: “As you may know, Senator Boxer is facing her toughest race yet.” While claiming students will “gain an invaluable educational experience on [sic] one of the highest profile Senate races this election,” the letter candidly admits: “The Boxer campaign needs volunteers to help with various projects.”

Her letter is openly soliciting a violation of state law and the Board must act accordingly to prevent this suggested illegal use of taxpayers' funds for Barbara Boxer's political gain.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Coupal". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jon Coupal  
President, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

Cc: California State Board of Education  
Attn: Theodore R. Mitchell  
State Board President  
1430 N Street, Suite #5111  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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