

From the press conference announcing the filing of a class-action lawsuit against the CTA and CFA unions to block funds for anti-Schwarzenegger electioneering:

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I have been teaching at my university since 1978 and never have been a member of CFA. However, I am currently assessed fees equal to 70% of full union dues even though I do not want the union representing me.

Of course, at the time of the unionization election in the 1980's, CFA promised never to impose a so-called "agency shop," characterizing forced dues as contrary to the spirit of collegiality in higher education.

But when the later-deposed Governor Grey Davis was first elected, one of his first acts was to pay off the union officials who got him elected. He did this by signing a forced union dues bill taking away a right that had been enjoyed by all CSU faculty – and tens of thousands of other public employees – to refrain from supporting financially an unwanted union. And this right was taken away without a vote of those affected or even through the collective bargaining process.

Now, faced with a political battle with Governor Schwarzenegger this November, CFA has raised our dues to fund their political electioneering and attack ads. They categorically admit that this is the reason for their dues increase (while CFA has not secured a salary increase for professors for the last three years). In fact, in the September 2005 issue of *NEA Today* on page 19 under the headline "CTA Battles 'Terminator,'" the sister union of CFA proclaims "Raising the ante in their fight against Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's attack on public schools and teachers, the California Teachers Association State Council of Education voted to raise dues by \$60 a year for up to three years."

Under the *Abood* and *Hudson* U.S. Supreme Court decisions – won by National Right to Work Foundation attorneys – union officials have no right to collect money from professors such as myself to fund their political objectives, objectives that I happen to strongly disagree with. But under the dues increase, my forced dues also went up by approximately \$60.

Moreover, supposing they actually allow me to obtain a refund of these monies one or two years from now, that will not prevent this money being used now. And an election cannot be undone.

That's why I am seeking relief now from the courts. My First Amendment rights are being violated every single day by CFA officials. They do not speak for me – how dare they spend my money to promote their agenda!