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April 21, 2003

Senator Jack Scott, Chair
Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1 on Education
State Capitol, Room 2057
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jack Scott:

I am writing to urge you to support the educational technology funding that provides centralized and regional services throughout the State. California's Education Technology funding supports both regional services through **California Technology Assistance Project (CTAP)** and statewide services through the three **State Education Technology Services (SETS)** projects. The eleven regional CTAP programs provide essential support to California districts and schools in implementing the use of technology in the classroom. The three SETS projects provide centralized resources for teachers, administrators, and school tech support staff.

One of the SETS projects, **California Learning Resources Network (CLRN)** provides schools with information about standards-based electronic resources and a lesson plan builder. The other SETS projects, the **Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership (TICAL)** and **Technical Support for Education Technology in Schools (TechSETS)** provide centralized resources to support school administrators and technical support staff.

These proven programs are essential to enable schools to fully benefit from the resources already made possible by the state and federal government as well as from the private companies and foundations. The state's investment of about \$14 million for these programs has consistently resulted in the access to districts of well over \$500 million in federal dollars from the Federal E-Rate telecommunications discounts and the recently enacted No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). NCLB provides \$86 million each year to support technology in California schools but mandates local planning, implementation support, and evaluation assistance that is required by related state legislation (SB 192). It is critical that CTAP be available to provide that assistance.

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