



Teens On Target
 Life Academy High School
 c/o Youth ALIVE!
 3300 Elm St.
 Oakland, CA 94609

March 31, 2014

Assemblymember Roger Dickinson
 State Capitol
 P.O. Box 942849
 Sacramento, CA 94249-0007

Re: AB 420 (Dickinson) Disruptions and Defiance (Support)

Dear Assemblymember Dickinson,

We as high school students at Life Academy and members of Teens on Target (a violence prevention program) support AB 420. We think that if you expel/suspend kids for no reason they will most likely end up on the streets, which will increase violence and poverty in our community. School will be empty, young people will be without an education; which, in turn, will force some youth to resort to other things like selling drugs or other forms of negativity. There will also be more of an obligation for adults to make sure their teens are not home alone or unsupervised.

In general, suspending and expelling students for little things will make youth feel like everything that they do will come with HUGE consequences. Put yourself in the shoes of a youth suffering from this consequence: your record is tainted, your education is slowly going downhill and your self-esteem is being lowered. How would you feel if this was happening to your children, or to YOU?

Sincerely,

Teens on Target: Life Academy

Violence prevention educator

Yoshiue Martinez

Student Kyra Willis

Kyra Willis

Student Maria Cardenas

Maria Cardenas

Student Devita Diaz

Devita Diaz

Student Dynthia Morales

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Student Saba Dobashi

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Student Lucy Tovar

Lucy Tovar

Student Esperanza Delgado

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Student Jorge Maciel

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