

Students Matter

Defending students' rights through impact litigation

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California Teachers Unions File Appeal Vowing to Defend Harmful Statutes Challenged in *Vergara v. California*

CTA and CFT Ignore the Best Interest of Students by Appealing the Superior Court's Historic Decision

LOS ANGELES, CA – Today, the California Teachers Association and the California Federation of Teachers, Intervenor in the groundbreaking education equality case, *Vergara v. California*, filed a Notice of Appeal with the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles. The state's largest teachers unions seek to overturn the landmark Superior Court decision which struck down as unconstitutional five harmful provisions of the California Education Code that govern teacher tenure, dismissal, and layoffs.

Students Matter, the national education non-profit that sponsored *Vergara v. California*, issued the following statement:

"As expected, the teachers unions have chosen to ignore the best interests of students by appealing the Superior Court's common sense decision. By continuing to defend these harmful and irrational statutes, the CTA and CFT leadership seeks to perpetuate inequality in the classroom and deny students their fundamental right to educational opportunity. We will fight this appeal, and with the facts and law on the side of California's students, we will prevail."

During trial, Plaintiffs presented overwhelming evidence that the challenged statutes impose real and substantial harm on students and impair their fundamental right to education. Importantly, the Vergara trial showed that these laws harm both students and teachers, and that they serve no necessary purpose. In his ruling, the Honorable Judge Rolf M. Treu agreed with Plaintiffs, noting: "The evidence is compelling. Indeed, it shocks the conscience."

To read Judge Treu's final judgment, [click here](#).

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Students Matter is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to sponsoring impact litigation to promote access to quality public education. Learn more at studentsmatter.org.