



California Department of
EDUCATION



The
California
Endowment

Why Are California Schools Suspending More Students Than They Graduate?

*A Statewide Hearing Examining New Federal Civil Rights Data
and Exploring Alternative Discipline Policies that Work for All Students*

Sponsored by California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson,
California Attorney General Kamala Harris and The California Endowment,
featuring Russlynn H. Ali, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education

California schools suspend more than 400,000 students a year. This hearing will explore the reasons behind this problem and highlight solutions that keep schools safe, keep students in the classroom and pave the way for a healthy and more successful future for California's young people.

As the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education, Russlynn H. Ali is responsible for enforcing the U.S. civil rights laws as they pertain to education. She will highlight new federal data documenting the overuse of suspensions and expulsions in schools, especially among youth of color.

The hearing will also feature the perspectives of education leaders, policy experts, students, researchers, reform advocates and community organizations from across California.

WHEN: Monday, September 10
Event Registration begins at 2 p.m.
Doors open at 2:30 p.m.
Hearing begins promptly at 3 p.m.
Reception from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Los Angeles Public Library, Mark Taper Auditorium
630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles CA

This statewide hearing is open to all, and there will be opportunities for public comment.

The hearing is open to the media. For information contact mkeh@calendow.org

"If a society based on the ideal of fundamental equality is to fulfill its promise, it cannot afford to look away when confronted with stark inequity."

– Russlynn H. Ali



Supported By: ACLU of Southern California, Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, Black Organizing Project, Black Parallel School Board, Brothers Sons Selves Coalition, CADRE, Children's Defense Fund-California, Dignity in Schools - Los Angeles Chapter, Education Development Center Inc., Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, Gay-Straight Alliance Network, Labor Community Strategy Center, PolicyLink, Public Counsel, The Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy at the UC Berkeley School of Law, Youth Justice Coalition, Youth Leadership Institute