



# NEWS

**AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM**

1920 L Street, NW • Suite 200 • Washington, DC 20036  
202.785.0266 • Fax 202.785.0261

**WWW.ATR.ORG**

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**CONTACT: Jonathan Collegio  
Chris Butler  
202-785-0266**

21 April, 2004

## **Governator Cuts Funding for Labor U!**

*Governor Schwarzenegger cuts funding for politically motivated Institute for Labor and Employment.*

WASHINGTON — In yet another sign that Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is serious about cutting California's budget deficit without raising taxes, Gov. Schwarzenegger cut \$2 million from the state's tax-payer-funded, labor think tank. The Institute for Labor and Employment, based at UCLA and UC Berkeley, has been used to train union activists and criticize anti-labor efforts, legislators, and elections.

**“Cutting funding for politically motivated labor think tank is a fiscally responsible move by the Governor,”** said Grover Norquist, president of American for Tax Reform. **“Californians should not be forced to pay for the training of union activists.”**

According to an article by Evan Halper in the *Los Angeles Times*, the Institute, created under former Gov. Gray Davis in 2001, “holds workshops on how to increase union membership, get more at the bargaining table and fight globalization.” These functions are partisan issues that directly benefit labor unions and can and should be offered by individual unions instead of being funded by California taxpayers' dollars.

**“Organized labor has no business being in state funded university classrooms,”** said Norquist. **“Governor Schwarzenegger should be applauded for putting Californian taxpayers ahead of unions and other special interests.”**

As of March 2004 the State of California faced a budgeting gap of \$15-billion. Governor Schwarzenegger had made his priorities clear to spending reductions and government regulatory reform in order to bridge the gap.