



SIKH COUNCIL OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

'RECOGNIZE YE ALL THE HUMAN RACE AS ONE'
Guru Gobind Singh Ji



RESOLUTION

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Central Valley Sikh Community gathered at the Annandgarh Sahib Sikh temple, situated at: 680 S.Vineland Avenue, Kerman, California, on Sunday 8th November, 2009. Organized by the Sikh Council of Central California (SCCC), the occasion was the 'Guru Nanak Prakaash Utsav' celebrating the birth of the founder of the Sikh Faith, Guru Nanak. The SCCC represents approx. 30,000 Sikhs living in the Valley.

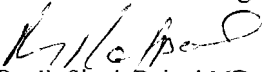
“ ABX 4 2 (Evans) Section 28 which has suspended the Textbook adoptions and Curriculum Framework Revisions until school year 2013-14 should be immediately repealed, amended or over-ridden by an executive order to ensure that the draft 2010 History-Social Science (HSS) Framework is adopted without any delay.”

BACKGROUND

The issue has been fully addressed in the draft 2010 HSS Framework prepared by the California Department of Education in collaboration with many distinguished educators, who took part in meetings of four Focus Groups in 2008 and five meetings of the Curriculum Framework and Evaluation Criteria Committee (CFCC) in 2009. The draft stands approved by the Curriculum Commission for a 60-day Public Review.

The updated Framework in a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic society is vital in guiding the teachers what to teach and how to stay abreast with new developments. As per the Education Code, the History-Social Science (HSS) Framework ought to be revised every six years, but it has not been revised since 1998. Updating the Framework becomes even more important in view of the rapidly changing demographics in California, where due attention needs to be paid to Asian Indians, Japanese Americans, Korean Americans, Mexican Americans and more importantly Sikh Americans. Sikh Americans have been the victims of a mistaken identity as Muslims, resulting in the bullying of Sikh students in schools, unnecessary harassment by the Homeland Security officials, hate crimes at work and business places as well as many tragic incidents of murders of Sikhs in the wake of 9/11. The Framework is important for professional development, as instructional resource guide in classroom instruction for teachers at school, at home and other educational settings.

In view of the foregoing, postponement of the Framework revision to 2013-14 is a retrograde step, unbecoming of the Golden State. ABX4 2(Evans) Section 28 and line item deletion of the budget for Framework revision and adoption process has caused this problem by putting the updating of HSS Framework on the back burner. There is urgent need to over-ride it with an executive order for ensuring early adoption of the draft HSS Framework.


Dr. Ranjit Singh Rajpal MD
General Secretary Sikh Council of Central California
860 E Almond Avenue
Madera, California 93637
Tel: (559) 706 8395 Fax: (559) 673 4741