Learn simple steps to enforce your rights

Under the historic Williams v. California settlement, every student in California is now guaranteed the right to:

- A qualified, permanent teacher for every class
- Textbooks & instructional materials to use in class and at home
- Clean and safe schools & classrooms

Public Advocates

Making Rights Real
YOU CAN FILE A COMPLAINT UNDER THE UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURE (Cal. Educ. Code § 35186), TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS IF YOU LACK:

CLEAN & SAFE SCHOOL FACILITIES
- There are non-functioning or closed bathrooms, or other unsanitary restroom conditions;
- The heating, ventilation, fire sprinkler, or air-conditioning systems in a school are broken;
- A school is infested with pests, insects, vermin, or rodents;
- A school has broken windows that pose a security risk;
- The exterior doors or gates of a school will not lock;
- There is a hazardous or uninhabitable condition at a school such as structural damage, asbestos, lead paint, etc.;
- There is a gas leak at a school;
- There is an electrical power failure at a school, or
- There is any school facility condition that poses a threat to the health or safety of students or staff.

On the complaint, describe the problem or condition, where it is located, and how it poses a threat to health or safety.

SUFFICIENT TEXTBOOKS/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
- A student doesn't have a book to use in class or must share a book;
- A student doesn't have a book to use at home;
- A student's book is missing pages;
- A student's book is severely damaged;
- A student's book is in poor or unusable physical condition;
- A student's book is out-of-date;
- A student doesn't have the proper lab equipment; or
- A student is given only photocopies of a portion of the textbook because of a textbook shortage.

On the complaint, identify the problem, the course/grade level, name of textbook or instructional material, teacher's full name, and any other important details.

QUALIFIED, PERMANENT TEACHERS
- A class is not assigned a permanent teacher within the first 4 weeks of the class;
- A class is taught only by substitute teachers;
- A class is taught by a teacher who lacks the proper credentials to teach the subject matter; or
- A class in which more than 20% of the students are English learners has a teacher who lacks the proper authorization to teach English learners.

On the complaint, identify the problem, course/grade level, and teacher's full name.

Questions?
Need help with filing a complaint or an appeal?

Contact:

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