

## Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, January 2016

Details are in the January issue of the *Advocacy Communicator*.

- The deadline to register for Sacramento Safari is coming up very soon! Who is going from our unit/council?
- The Every Student Succeeds Act was approved by both houses of Congress and signed by President Obama in December. This law replaces No Child Left Behind. It shifts more responsibility for education back to the states and gets rid of some of the toughest provisions in NCLB. It will go into effect for the 2017-18 school year.
- California State PTA is holding its Legislation Conference in Sacramento on March 14 and 15. If we can't send someone to Sacramento Safari, perhaps we can consider this event.
- Teacher issues dealing with evaluations, tenure and layoffs are still hot topics in Sacramento. Several bills were introduced during the last legislative session. They didn't get very far, but legislators will continue working on them during the next session, which began this month.
- The federal spending bill that Congress recently passed increases funding for education programs by \$1.2 billion. The increases will go to schools with high percentages of low-income children, special education, Head Start and arts programs.
- At the Fourth District PTA Advocacy Forum on January 22, superintendents from several of our Orange County school districts will talk about how their districts are handling the recent changes in education. It's free for all PTA members.

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