There is still time to vote for CFT/CCE endorsed candidates
Kurato Shimada and Chuck Valdes for CalPERS Board

Stop the attack on our pensions!

Gov. Schwarzenegger pulled his pension privatization initiative off the streets a few months ago—only to announce that he will instead put it on the June 2006 ballot. This initiative would strip classified and other public employees of our retirement security by abolishing the CalPERS pension system and converting it to a giant 401(k) plan.

With 16 years’ experience on the CalPERS board, Kurato Shimada knows that would be a mistake. No other candidate for the CalPERS board has Kurato’s vast knowledge and experience with the pension system, and no other candidate will be as effective at helping us stop these attacks on our retirement security. The CFT/CCE have endorsed Kurato Shimada for CalPERS board member.

“Others will have to learn the issues. I already know them,” Shimada says. “For example, the governor is trying to scare everyone by saying the pension system will collapse if we don’t privatize it, but I know better. As far as our future liabilities are concerned, we’re secure—and our Moody rating is the highest possible.”

CFT/CCE has also endorsed state employee Chuck Valdes for Seat A. Valdes has been a CalPERS board member for more than 20 years, and Shimada says he and Valdes work together effectively.

“Chuck has always supported my efforts on behalf of classified employees,” Shimada says.

Because the pension board election is in August this year, EVERY vote counts. We need your help to spread the word to every CalPERS member you know. There are more than 1 million eligible voters, with multiple candidates vying for both seats. Make sure your pension is protected: Vote!

CalPERS Election schedule:

Aug. 22  Ballots are mailed directly to eligible active and retired CalPERS members (excluding survivors and beneficiaries). The election voting period begins.

Sept. 23  Eligible members not receiving a ballot should contact the CalPERS Board Elections Office at (800) 794-2297 or (916) 795-3952 (in the Sacramento area).

Oct. 3    Voting period ends. Voted ballots must be postmarked by this date to be counted. The reverse side of the envelope must be signed by the voter; otherwise the ballot will not be counted.

Oct. 4    The candidate receiving a majority of votes (50 percent of votes cast plus one vote) in the Position A and Position B election will be certified by the Secretary of State as having been elected several weeks after tabulation.

In the event there is no majority winner in the election for either Position A or Position B, a runoff election will be conducted between the two candidates who received the highest number of votes in the affected election(s). If necessary, runoff ballots will be mailed out in November.