

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Thursday, September 28, 2006

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Kudos for Chronicle

Editor -- Once more, our state has assumed a leadership role in national reform efforts -- this time taking critical steps to improve the lives of children living in foster care.

Kudos to the governor and California lawmakers, especially Assemblymember Karen Bass, for demanding greater consistency and accountability in our foster-care system, and kudos to Chronicle Editorial Page Editor John Diaz and former editorial-writer Pati Poblete for calling attention to the needs of this "hidden population" and serving as California's conscience on foster-care issues.

There is still more work to be done, as detailed in the report of the nonpartisan Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care, but California's recent steps are essential ones. Also essential are the new tools in the law, including in AB2216, to create enhanced collaborative leadership and accountability as we seek to more wisely parent our children living in foster care.

We hope The Chronicle will continue to examine our foster-care system and work to ensure that the goals encompassed in this new legislation will become a reality.

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