**California Civics Contest: Building a Better Future**

**Objective**  
This contest encourages 8th graders to engage with current issues facing California by creating a short-form video that answers the question: *“What does the state of California need to work on today to build a better future for me?”* Through this project, students will gain a deeper understanding of public policy, think critically about the state's future, and practice sharing their ideas with a broader audience.

**Project Description**  
Participants are tasked with creating a video (maximum length: 2 minutes) in which they highlight an issue they believe California should address to build a better future. Videos should focus on a specific area—whether it’s climate change, education, healthcare, social justice, or any other topic that directly impacts their future. Creativity and clarity are encouraged as students explain why their chosen issue is important and what changes they hope to see.

**Instructions for Submission**

1. **Content Guidelines**
   * **Length**: Videos must be no longer than 2 minutes.
   * **Topic**: The video must address the question: *"What does the state of California need to work on today to build a better future for me?"*
   * **Focus**: Clearly describe one issue, how it affects the future of young Californians, and suggest ways California can address this issue.
   * **Research:** Gather factual information to support your argument.
   * **Community Engagement:** Consider interviewing members of your community who are directly affected by the issue you are addressing. Including their perspectives can strengthen your video’s message.
   * **Format**: Vertical, Reel/Tik Tok format.
2. **How to Submit**
   * Upload your video file to Google Drive, Dropbox, or YouTube.
   * Submit the video by emailing [Miki.Holmes@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Miki.Holmes@asm.ca.gov) with a link to the file.
   * Include your full name, school, and parent's phone number with your submission.
   * Submissions will be accepted between December 1 – 10, 2024.
3. **Judging Criteria**  
   Videos will be judged based on the following:
   * **Relevance**: How well the video addresses the prompt.
   * **Creativity**: Originality and creativity in how the message is communicated.
   * **Clarity**: The ideas are clearly explained and easy to understand.
   * **Impact**: The video demonstrates a strong understanding of the issue and potential solutions.

**Disclaimer**  
By submitting a video to this contest, participants agree to permit the Office of Assemblymember Ward to post their submission on any associated media platforms, including but not limited to, social media and the official website.