

## Talking Points

- With respect to ancient history and in particular the treatment of the Persian civilization, the existing K-12 State education **standards** are notably **outdated** and continue to reflect one-sided accounts of Greek historians.
- This has resulted in the development of **textbooks** that **fail** to adequately and accurately cover a centrally important civilization of the ancient. To the extent that these works distort our present understanding of history, they perform a disservice to all students, and are especially **offensive and demeaning** to those California students who are of Persian heritage.
- This grave deficiency in the State standards has been **recognized by the California State Board of Education** (CSBE) which is currently collaborating with subject matter scholars to revise and bring the standards up to date.
- **Textbook publishers** (e.g., TCI the publisher of “History Alive!”) have also **acknowledged this deficiency** and are taking corrective measures including providing teaching supplements and reevaluating the contents of their textbooks.
- While the relevant standards are in the process of revision, students and teachers should **rely on supplements** that present a more accurate and balanced account of ancient history.