



Free Speech Rights – Student Walkouts and School Discipline

Description

Law Offices of Hirji & Chau support the right of students to protest. In anticipation of the March 14 school walkouts in support of gun control, we are providing free legal advice to any student or parent that wants to know what their rights are before and/or after the walkout. Call us to schedule a time to speak with an attorney.

[Here](#) is a summary of your free speech rights in school:

Your Rights

What Schools CANNOT Do

You have the right of Free Speech in school

You have the right of Free Speech outside of school campus

Schools CANNOT stop you from passing out information, petitions, wearing badges, or writing in the newspaper.

You cannot be disciplined for free speech outside of school.

You can only be suspended or expelled for those offenses listed in the Education Code

You should not be suspended if this is your first offense

Schools CANNOT:

- suspend you for being truant, tardy, or absent
- suspend you for exercising your free speech

Unless the act is serious, schools CANNOT suspend you for the first offense, and must offer alternative

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**You have the right to Due Process when you are
being suspended**

Schools CANNOT suspend everyone simply because they walked out. They must decide whether you violated the Education Code. Schools must give you a chance to tell your side of the story before making the decision to suspend.

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