

**MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO
THE LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

SUBJECT: Supporting Legislation to Increase Our Ability to Generate Revenue for Local Schools (Res-046-17/18) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

DATE NOTICED: 05-08-18

PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 05-08-18

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Gonez,
Ms. García

MOVED/SECONDED BY: Ms. Gonez/
Dr. Rodriguez

MOTION:

RESOLUTION: x

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District exists to provide all children with a world-class education, regardless of socio-economic status, language, disability, zip code, or other factors that may impact academic achievement;

Whereas, Nearly 80% of the District's students live in poverty and the District is committed to offering a high-quality education to its most underserved students, including by providing three meals a day, access to social services, health and wellness centers, counselors, and other additional wrap-around services;

Whereas, Before the start of a downward trend in education spending in the late 1970s, California had previously led the nation in the quality of its public education system by investing in well-resourced primary, secondary, and post-secondary educational institutions;

Whereas, The 1978 passage of Proposition 13 in California severely limited increases in the property taxes of the state's property owners, dramatically shifting the funding of public education from the local- to the state-level, and paralyzing school districts' ability to generate revenue through property taxes;

Whereas, Subsequent decades saw a steep decline in California's public education investments compared to other states, despite rising costs for facilities, instructional materials and technology, and human capital necessary to providing a high-quality education to all students;

Whereas, In 2017, California ranked 46th in the nation in terms of per-pupil funding for K-12 education and 37th in education spending as a share of the state economy, spending \$11,329 per student compared to \$22,333 in New York;

Whereas, California consistently lags behind well-funded states, such as Vermont and New York, in comparable assessments of student achievement, such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), underscoring the potential of additional investments in public education as having a tangible impact on student outcomes;
Whereas, Various stakeholders in the education community have long been aligned in the need for an increase in per-pupil funding to support student success, including the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District which in November of 2017 joined the calls of our labor partners and adopted the resolution: Urging the State of

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California to Reclaim Its Leadership in Education by Increasing Investment in Our Schools (Res 018-17/18) for the state to increase education funding to \$20,000 per-pupil by 2020;

Whereas, The passage of a parcel tax would increase the District’s ability to generate more revenue so that we can provide the resources, facilities, and human capital necessary for a high-quality education, including but not limited to, arts, music, STEM education, special education, and support for teachers;

Whereas, If passed by the California legislature, Senate Constitutional Amendment 22 (Allen) would be placed on the ballot for voters to adopt or reject the amendment to lower the threshold for passage of local parcel taxes from two-thirds approval to fifty-five percent majority; and

Whereas, In 2000, California voters passed an initiative to lower the vote threshold from two-thirds approval to fifty-five percent to pass local school bond measures, which has allowed this District to pass four bond measures for much-needed construction and facilities updates since then; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District hereby supports the passage and adoption of Senate Constitutional Amendment 22 to lower the threshold for passage of local parcel taxes to fifty-five percent, and urges the California State Legislature and the Governor to adopt this bill;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent will work with the Office of Government Relations to add Senate Constitutional Amendment 22 to its list of priorities and to advocate for its passage; and, be it finally

Resolved, That if Senate Constitutional Amendment 22 is adopted by the California Legislature and placed on the ballot for a vote, the Superintendent is directed to provide a series of non-partisan parent-voter education information (within existing budgetary and staffing resources), working with partner organizations like the California School Boards Association, about the potential impact of this amendment on the District.

AYES NOES ABSTAIN ABSENT

Ms. Gonez	X			
Dr. McKenna	X			
Mr. Melvoin	X			
Dr. Rodriguez	X			
Mr. Schmerelson				X
Dr. Vladovic	X			
Ms. Garcia	X			
TOTAL	6			1

ACTION: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE