



California School Boards Association

Sample Board Resolution on Governor's Proposed 2008/09 Budget

WHEREAS, California's more than 6 million students deserve high-quality schools with well-trained educators, small class sizes, quality instructional materials, up-to-date textbooks and dynamic parental support; and

WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger's 2008-09 budget proposal calls for massive and devastating cuts to K-12 students and schools by reducing Proposition 98 funding by \$400 million in the current year and \$4.4 billion for 2008-09; and

WHEREAS, A \$4.4 billion cut to Proposition 98 funding would mean laying off tens of thousands of teachers statewide and would also result in increases in class size, not to mention a further erosion of the support system for students provided by classified and paraprofessional staff; and

WHEREAS, Under the governor's proposed budget, (*school district/county office of education*) would lose (\$Enter dollar amount) in the current fiscal year due to mid-year cuts and (#Enter dollar amount) in 2008-09 due to the suspension of Proposition 98; and

WHEREAS, (*school district/county office of education*) has suffered more than \$ (___) million in cuts in the last several years, damaging local efforts to ensure up-to-date textbooks and ongoing teacher training, and guarantee small class sizes; and

WHEREAS, According to recently released reports and studies, California spends \$1,900 less per student than the national average -- seriously underfunding its public schools; and

WHEREAS, The governor's proposed budget reductions are fundamentally inconsistent with the state's goal of improving student achievement, at a time when our students are making progress toward meeting rigorous state and federal education standards; and

WHEREAS, The "Getting Down to Facts" studies show that billions more need to be invested in education in California to ensure the opportunity for all students succeed now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, The \$14 billion budget problem was not created by our students and fixing the problem should not come at the expense of their educational progress and success; and

WHEREAS, California voters approved — and continue to strongly support — Proposition 98 to protect schools and students from harmful budget cuts and to establish a minimum level of education funding; and

WHEREAS, The governor's budget proposal goes against the will of California voters; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the (*school district/county office of education*) strongly opposes the governor's 2008-09 budget proposal and urges the governor and Legislature to discuss all possibilities to solve the budget crisis including new revenue sources and expenses.