

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR AB 3136 – SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION No. 2220-2

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill (AB) 3136 (O'Donnell) would significantly address special education funding issues in the state for its most vulnerable student population—children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education concurs with several of the joint findings contained in the 2015 California Special Education Task Force and the 2016 Public Policy Institute of California reports, which acknowledge the significant special education program fiscal challenges:

- Special education in California is underfunded
- Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) base rates are not equitable throughout the state
- The state needs to better support local infant and preschool special education programs, and

WHEREAS, AB 3136 would implement several of these key fiscal recommendations, including addressing special education funding equity by:

- Leveling up base AB 602 funding rates to the 95th percentile
- Establishing a funding formula within AB 602 for programs serving preschoolers with disabilities
- Amending the current AB 602 formula to allow school districts the ability to calculate a declining enrollment adjustment based on individual school district average daily attendance (ADA) instead of aggregated SELPA ADA, and

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WHEREAS, AB 3136 provides a mechanism within AB 602 that provides additional funding for students with significant high-cost disabilities, and

WHEREAS, school districts in Santa Clara County grapple with increasing mandated special education expenditures and decreasing state and federal funding, changes proposed in AB 3136 would assist every school agency, including ours, to help us meet the educational needs of our students with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools does hereby adopt this resolution to affirm support for AB 3136 – Special Education Funding as school agencies contribute 60% of General Funds to support student with disabilities and AB 3136 assists in addressing our call for Full and Fair Funding of California's Public Schools. **PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on April 4, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: President Kamei, members Di Salvo, Green, King, Rossi, Mah and Song NOES: --none--ABSTAIN: --none--ABSENT: --none--

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Rosemary Kamei, President Santa Clara County Board of Education

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