

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 743 – THE EDUCATION EQUALIZATION ENDOWMENT ACT

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No. 2464-13

WHEREAS, California’s school finance system continues to be shaped by outdated education funding laws such as Proposition 13 (1978) and Senate Bill 90 (1972), which no longer reflect the needs of a 21st-century public education system or California’s current economic reality in 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) has made important strides in increasing equity, but substantial per-pupil funding gaps remain between districts, leading to deeply inequitable student experiences across the same geographic region in different zip codes; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County is home to 31 school districts serving over 260,000 public school students, including significant populations of English learners, students with special needs, students experiencing poverty and homelessness, and foster youth, all of whom require robust, sustained investment to reach their full, unique potential and to one day participate in the local economy and achieve economic mobility; and

WHEREAS, wide disparities exist in per-pupil funding across Santa Clara County which continue to grow while all performance expectations are constant, despite serving students within the same high-cost, innovation-driven region; and

WHEREAS, this equalization endowment funding opportunity will positively affect student access to support services, academic intervention, mental health services, Special Education programs, STEM programs, Arts education, enrichment opportunities, and safe facilities, to close opportunity gaps; and

WHEREAS, this mechanism will help districts attract and retain highly qualified teachers and staff with competitive salaries in order to further diminish opportunity gaps; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 743 – The Education Equalization Endowment Act, introduced by California State Senator Dave Cortese, proposes the creation of a state-funded endowment account to equitably support less well-funded districts without reducing existing revenues for more resourced districts, and will invest surplus state funds into long-term, needs-based education funding; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 743 represents a practical, forward-looking solution that upholds the promise of equity in public education by ensuring all students, regardless of zip code, have access to the resources they need to succeed; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution strongly supporting Senate Bill 743 – The Education Equalization Endowment Act, and urges all school boards in Santa Clara County—and throughout the State of California—to adopt this resolution in support of the bill and the principle of fair, adequate, and sustainable public school funding for all students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to:

- The Office of Senator Dave Cortese
- Governor Gavin Newsom
- The California State Board of Education
- Local and regional elected officials in support of statewide legislative action to remedy long-standing funding disparities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 21, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Dr. David M. Toston, Sr.
County Superintendent of Schools