

A Resolution in Support of Proposition 55: Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act of 2016

Respectfully submitted to the Board of Directors of California State University, Los Angeles, Associated Students, Incorporated Resolution Number FA-16-001 Approval Date: 10/20/2016

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Whereas, Proposition 30, passed in 2012¹, helped public education recover some of the funds it lost during the recession² by allowing districts to hire more teachers, faculty and education support professionals; brought additional books and supplies directly to the classroom; re-opened school libraries; and improved student access to community college courses, while at the same time helped to stabilize California's budget; and

Whereas, Governor Brown's 2016-17 budget forecasts show that unless we extend the tax on the wealthiest Californians, our schools and colleges will come up \$4 billion short in the first year, and the state budget will face a nearly \$4 billion deficit; and

Whereas, Proposition 55, the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act³ is not a tax increase, but maintains the current income tax rates on the wealthiest Californians and only affects the top 2% of earners in the state and will automatically expire after 12 years; and

Whereas, Proposition 55 is expected to raise \$8-11 billion a year that will go directly into a special fund that supports K-12 schools and community colleges; and

Whereas, by helping the state maintain and fund critical resources for public education, the measure will provide funding for other essential services like health care for low-income children and seniors. Up to \$2 billion a year will go to health care for low-income children and their families; and

Whereas, Proposition 55 includes strict accountability provisions, as funds are not permitted to go towards bureaucracy or administrative costs, and is subject to audits by the State Controller; and

Whereas, although it provides no direct funding for the CSU, investments in K-12 education ultimately benefit the higher education segments by contributing to better prepared students and a more stable state fiscal environment; and

¹ <u>https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_30, Sales_and_Income_Tax_Increase_(2012)</u>

² <u>http://calbudgetcenter.org/blog/the-great-recession-and-its-aftermath-putting-a-number-on-californias-lost-economic-potential/</u>

³https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_55, Extension_of_the_Proposition_30_Income_Tax_Increase_(2016)



Whereas, our students cannot afford another round of drastic cuts, the funds will be used to help students by reducing class sizes, updating textbooks, hiring new educators and keeping tuition costs from skyrocketing; let it be

Resolved, that this body, the Associated Students, Incorporated of California State University, Los Angeles, supports **Proposition 55, the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act of 2016**, as a balanced and responsible solution that continues the much needed investment in public education and other vital services our community wants and deserves; and be it further

Resolved, that the Associated Students, Incorporated will distribute copies of this resolution widely, including, but not limited to, Cal State LA students, the CSU Board of Trustees, the California State Student Association, the Cal State LA Campus President Dr. William A. Covino, and the Cal State LA University Times.

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