

Resolution

Antioch Unified School District Board of Education

RESOLUTION 2019-20-51

Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020

WHEREAS, for four decades, school districts in California have experienced underinvestment and devastating cuts causing California's school funding to fall behind and resulting in fewer services and resources for students and teachers;

WHEREAS, the lack of adequate local funding is the result of an inequitable tax system in which corporations and wealthy investors do not pay their fair share in property taxes;

WHEREAS, loopholes in California's property tax system allows a fraction of major commercial and industrial properties to avoid regular reassessment and use shady schemes to hide change in ownership;

WHEREAS, these loopholes and tax schemes result in millions of dollars going to corporations and wealthy investors rather than to schools and local communities for essential services;

WHEREAS, experts estimate that the *California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act* reclaims \$12 billion in property tax revenue every year to ensure that our schools and communities have the resources to educate all of our kids and the services to support all of our families;

WHEREAS, the *California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act* does not affect property taxes for homeowners or renters because the initiative exempts all residential property;

WHEREAS, academic researchers at the University of Southern California (USC) have identified that the vast majority of the reclaimed revenue will come from just a fraction of large properties;

WHEREAS, California schools are falling behind, ranking lowest in the nation with the largest number of students per teacher and the fewest counselors per student;

WHEREAS, per-pupil funding has declined from the top 10 in the nation to 39th;

WHEREAS, the top-ranked state spends \$10,259 more per-pupil to educate their children than California spends;

WHEREAS, the measure invests up to \$4 billion annually for K-14 schools to ensure that our kids receive the world-class education they deserve;

WHEREAS, California should be a leader in innovation by educating the next generation of students to compete in the global economy;

WHEREAS, the *California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act* guarantees funding to all school districts, over and above Proposition 98 funding, and following the local control funding formula to all students in need in all districts;

WHEREAS, the measure also provides billions in funding yearly for cities, counties, and special districts in locally controlled revenues for affordable housing, parks, libraries, emergency responders, health and human services, libraries, public infrastructure, and much more;

WHEREAS, the measure incentivizes the development of residential units and provides more funding for communities to invest in affordable housing;

WHEREAS, the measure provides new tax incentives to spur new investment in small businesses by eliminating the business personal property tax on equipment for California’s small businesses;

WHEREAS, the measure also exempts all small business owners whose property is worth \$3 million or less;

WHEREAS, the measure levels the playing field for businesses that already pay their fair share in our communities;

WHEREAS, the *California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020* is on the November 2020 ballot;

THEREFORE, be it Resolved, that the **Antioch Unified School District** endorses the *California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020* for a ballot measure in November 2020.

Passed and Adopted on the
_____ Day of _____, 2020

Diane Gibson-Gray, President

Mary Rocha, Vice President

Gary Hack, Board Member



Ellie Householder, Board Member

Crystal Sawyer-White, Board Member

Stephanie Anello, Superintendent