In the Matter of Opposing the 2018 Federal Budget Proposal to Cut Education and Health Care Funding

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a world class public education with sufficient funding to support students with various needs is essential for the future success of our nation and students; and

WHEREAS, under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 proposed federal budget, California would lose $400 million in federal K-12 education funding; and

WHEREAS, the full budget proposal requests $9 billion in cuts to federal education programs and will have both direct and indirect consequences for low-income students and their families, as well as the public schools serving them, and represents a massive shift in federal priorities; and

WHEREAS, significant K-12 education cuts proposed include the elimination of the 21st Century after school program, severe reduction of traditional Title I formula grants to schools, elimination of the Title II-A program for effective instruction, elimination of the new Title IV Academic Enrichment Block Grants, the Striving Readers Program, elimination of Impact Aid Federal Properties funding, and a reduction to Career and Technical Education (CTE) state grants; and

WHEREAS, any reductions in Medicaid funding will have a severe impact on the health and education of low-income students in San Diego Unified affecting their everyday readiness to learn and their absences due to sickness; and

WHEREAS, the health and related services provided to students with disabilities are federally required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Rehabilitation Act, and the loss of Medicaid funding for these services will shift an even larger share of these costs onto school district budgets; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified School District is committed to providing essential services to all students and supports increased investment – and not funding cuts – for critical K-12 programs, particularly Title I for disadvantaged students, Title II for professional development and class size reduction, Title III for English learners, and IDEA for students with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the San Diego Unified School District opposes the proposed federal budget cuts that will negatively impact San Diego Unified students who are performing better academically than state and county averages and have the highest graduation rates and lowest dropout rates of large urban school districts in California, and urges our elected representatives to stop the erosion of public K-12 funding in FY 2018 and beyond.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the San Diego Unified School District at a regular public meeting thereof duly called and held this 13th day of June 2017.

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President

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Vice President

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Member

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