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**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2016

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August 24, 2016

To: Board of Education

From: Roseann Torres

Subj: Support – Proposition 56 - Cigarette Tax To Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement

Action Requested

Approval by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1617-0039 - Support - Proposition 56 - Cigarette Tax To Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Background

Research has determined that smoking is a preventable cause of death in California and in the nation; that 90% or more young people begin smoking as teenagers; that greater efforts need to be made to dissuade and to prevent this health crisis occurring among young people.

I am asking my colleagues, for reasons enumerated in Resolution No. 1617-0039, to support Proposition 56 so that new health programs are established, among others, for California pupils that provide more health prevention, intervention services and will, in general, hopefully, dissuade or diminish the use of tobacco products by the general population because of the known harmful health effects.

Recommendation

Approval by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1617-0039 - Support - Proposition 56 - Cigarette Tax To Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute

RT:ER:st

Attachment – Resolution No. 1617-0039

cc: Antwan Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
Marion McWilliams, General Counsel

File ID Number: 16-1848
Introduction Date: 8/24/16
Enactment Number: 16-1350
Enactment Date: 8/24/2016
By: JA

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NO. 1617-0039**

SUPPORT - PROPOSITION 56 - CIGARETTE TAX TO FUND HEALTHCARE, TOBACCO USE PREVENTION, RESEARCH, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE

WHEREAS, smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in California and Nationally; and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of smokers start as teens; and

WHEREAS, over 16,000 children in California get hooked on smoking every year, and half of the teens who start will die from smoking related illness; and

WHEREAS, for every 10 percent increase in the cost of a pack of cigarettes, teen smoking drops by up to 6.5 percent; and

WHEREAS, teen e-cigarette (vaping) use tripled between 2013 and 2014 and continues to grow at an exponential rate; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 will prevent teens from becoming addicted to tobacco; and

WHEREAS, every year, smoking costs California taxpayers billions of dollars, including \$3.5 billion spent annually through Medi-Cal to treat smoking-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56 will reduce smoking rates and reduce long-term healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56 will increase the tax on a pack of cigarettes sold in California from 87 cents a pack to \$2.87, and place equivalent taxes on other tobacco products containing nicotine, like e-cigarettes; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56 will raise approximately \$2.5 billion annually, 85% of which will fund healthcare programs including millions for new health care programs for California schools; and

WHEREAS, these programs include Medi-Cal which is the primary medical care for the majority of California's school children, smoking prevention programs at our schools through grants administered by the California Department of Education, research on tobacco-related diseases including cancer, heart and lung disease through the University of California, increasing medical residency programs for our students graduating from California medical schools; and

WHEREAS, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 is supported by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association in California, the California Medical Association, the California Dental Association, the California Hospital Association, and the Service Employees international Union;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland Unified School District strongly supports Proposition 56, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 and urges Californians to vote YES to take a stand to promote the health of our students and save California lives.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this 24th day of August, 2016; by the following vote:

AYES: Shanthi Gonzales, Aimee Eng, Jody London, Roseann Torres, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Vice President Nina Senn, President James Harris

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATION

I, Antwan Wilson, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said district at a meeting thereof held on the 24th of August, 2016, with a copy of such Resolution being on file on the Office of the Board of Education of said district.



Antwan Wilson, Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education