

1 [Urging State Leaders to Fully Fund Public Education]

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3 **Resolution supporting the statewide “We Can’t Wait” campaign; supporting the United**
4 **Educators of San Francisco (UESF) in their right to take collective action; and urging**
5 **Governor Newsom and the State Legislature to stabilize the funding for public**
6 **education to ensure full staffing, smaller classroom sizes, fair wages and benefits for**
7 **educators and staff.**

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9 WHEREAS, California is the fourth largest economy in the world, but historically
10 ranked lower in per pupil spending in public education than other large states with similar
11 population sizes and ranked 37th in PreK-12th grade education nationally; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the Public Policy Institute of California, despite increased
13 investments, when adjusted for inflation the starting salaries for teachers remained stagnant
14 since the early 2000s; and

15 WHEREAS, The budget crisis in State public education is decades in the making since
16 the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978, which restricted the amount of State funding schools
17 receive from property taxes; and

18 WHEREAS, Across the State of California, school districts are facing budget shortfalls
19 due to declining enrollment, underfunding, and rising operation costs; and

20 WHEREAS, Federal funding for public education is continuously at risk especially
21 under this current Administration; and

22 WHEREAS, Last February, the California Teachers Association (CTA) representing
23 nearly 80,000 educators initiated a statewide “We Can’t Wait” campaign to demand fully
24 staffed classrooms; smaller class sizes and caseloads; competitive wages and benefits to
25 recruit and retain educators; and stability and safety for school communities; and

1 WHEREAS, There are at least 18 educator unions that are at an impasse with their
2 respective school districts over contract negotiations, including San Francisco Unified School
3 District (SFUSD); and

4 WHEREAS, The United Educators of San Francisco (UESF) overwhelmingly supported
5 a strike in an initial vote with over 99.3% approval from members, which demonstrated the
6 urgency in their demands for covered dependent healthcare benefits; fair wage increases,
7 reasonable workloads; support for paraeducators; smaller class sizes; shelter and housing for
8 students and families; and resources for immigrant families; and

9 WHEREAS, The Governor's 2026-2027 budget proposal maintains public education
10 funding and increased one-time investments, but withholds \$5.6 billion in Prop 98 funding as a
11 contingency; and

12 WHEREAS, In December 2025, seven of the largest public school districts, including
13 SFUSD, sent a letter to the Governor with recommendations on the State budget including the
14 full funding of the Proposition 98 guarantee and increased investments in special education
15 and behavioral support; and

16 WHEREAS, The uncertainty is destabilizing for educators, school staff, students, and
17 their families who depend on schools to be safe, nurturing, and enriched environments that
18 center student learning and growth; and

19 WHEREAS, Chronic underfunding led to layoffs, hiring freezes, and increased class
20 sizes across California, compromising student learning conditions and teacher retention; and

21 WHEREAS, Local school districts will not be able to solve long-term structural deficits
22 on their own without significant State funding support for ongoing fiscal solvency and stability;
23 now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and State Legislature
25 to secure funding in the budget; and a plan to release the Prop 98 funding; and

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Office of the Mayor
2 and State Lobbyist to urge the Governor and legislators to increase the budget for public
3 education; and

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors affirms and
5 supports the right to collective action by UESF and urges SFUSD to come to a resolution; and

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor and City
7 agencies to offer support to SFUSD to meet the demands for student and family housing;
8 resources for families at risk of immigration enforcement; and other strategic partnerships;
9 and

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges Governor
11 Newsom and the State Legislature to prioritize public education in the budget to and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk to transmit
13 copies of this Resolution to the Office of the Governor, the State delegates representing San
14 Francisco, the City's State Lobbyist, and the Office of the Mayor.