

1 [Urging the State of California to cut prison spending and re-invest those funds to Education.]

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3 **Resolution urging the Governor of California and the California state legislature to cut**
4 **prison spending and redirect that money to fund education.**

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6 WHEREAS, California faces 20.7 billion dollars in budget cuts for the 2003-2004
7 fiscal year; and,

8 WHEREAS, California ranks 33rd in the United States in education spending; and,
9 California ranks 1st in the United States in prison spending; and,

10 WHEREAS, Governor Davis' current proposed budget will cut 6.2 billion dollars from
11 California's K-12 schools over the next 18 months; and,

12 WHEREAS, Governor Davis' proposed budget will cut 1.2 billion dollars from
13 California's community colleges over the next 18 months; and,

14 WHEREAS, Governor Davis' proposed budget will increase prison spending by 1%;
15 and,

16 WHEREAS, Under the proposed budget, the SFUSD will be forced to endure 21.6
17 million dollars in budget cuts over the next 18 months; and,

18 WHEREAS, Under Governor Davis' proposed budget, City College of San Francisco
19 would endure 13 million dollars in cuts; and,

20 WHEREAS, The State of California spent over \$50,000.00 per inmate last year while
21 under Governor Davis' proposed budget, California will only spend \$6,708.00 per pupil in its
22 K-12 schools over the 2003-2004 fiscal year; and,

23 WHEREAS, Educating people in general, and youth especially, is infinitely more
24 important than imprisoning people; and,

1 WHEREAS, Spending less on California's education now will inevitably translate into a
2 poorly educated population in the future and will translate into more crime, leading to more
3 prison expenditures in the future; and,

4 WHEREAS, Since it costs more to imprison a criminal than to educate a child,
5 California spending more on education now will ultimately translate into California spending
6 substantially less on prisons in the future; and,

7 WHEREAS, Several states facing budget deficits have released hundreds of low-level
8 felons early, such as non-violent offenders and drug offenders; and,

9 WHEREAS, Educating California's population should always be the number one
10 priority of the State of California; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to urge the Governor of
12 California and the California State Legislature to cut prison spending and reinvest that money
13 into funding education; and therefore be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Governor
15 of California and the California State Legislature to increase spending on education and to
16 make education its top funding priority.