

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Board Resolution In Support of PROPOSITION 56: The California Health Care,
Research, and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016**

Resolution No. 16-09

October 4, 2016

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

WHEREAS, 90 percent of smokers start as teens; and

WHEREAS, over 17,000 children in California become addicted to smoking every year; and

WHEREAS, half of all teens who start smoking 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

WHEREAS, Proposition 56, the California Health Care, 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 on Medi-Cal to treat smoking-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 will reduce smoking rates and reduce long-term healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 will increase the tax on a pack of cigarettes sold in California from 87 cents per pack to \$2.87, and place equivalent taxes on other tobacco products containing nicotine, like e-cigarettes (vaping); and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 will raise approximately \$2.5 billion annually, 85 percent of which will fund healthcare programs; 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, Proposition 56, the California Health Care, Research, and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 is supported by the California School Boards Association and the California County Boards of Education; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 56, the California Health Care, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 is also 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sacramento County Board of Education supports Proposition 56: The California Health Care, Research, and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Sacramento County Board of Education at its regular board meeting on the 4th day of October 2016 by the following vote:

AYES	_____	_____
NOES	_____	_____
ABSENT	_____	_____
ABSTAIN	_____	_____

Jacquelyn Levy, Board President

David W. Gordon, Board Secretary