

PERALTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 08/09-48

BUDGET REFORM MEASURES ON THE 19 MAY 2009 SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT

WHEREAS, the United States is involved in a deep-seated economic recession with unemployment approaching double digits; and

WHEREAS, the State of California is enveloped in a deep-seated economic recession with unemployment rates exceeding 11.5%, coupled with bankruptcies and liquidations throughout businesses and industry, and the prognosis for a near-term recovery is pessimistic; and,

WHEREAS, the State of California is required to pass a balanced budget but is projecting a revenue shortfall of approximately 18 billion dollars through 30 June 2010 (i.e. projected revenues vis-à-vis current financial commitments); and,

WHEREAS, to balance the budget requires passage of a package of six ballot measures that will stabilize funding and restore \$9.3 billion in prior cuts to K-12 and community colleges; and

WHEREAS, failure to pass the measures could result in a \$319 million reduction in apportionment to K-14, which could result in a loss of as much as \$10 million in funding for The Peralta Colleges; and

WHEREAS, The Peralta Colleges have already constrained or reduced to a prudent minimum expenditures for all major operations, including safety, salaries, programs, maintenance, and student services, consistent with state law and legal obligations; and

WHEREAS, the emergency financial reserves for The Peralta Colleges are now below the statewide average for Community Colleges; and

WHEREAS, the Peralta Colleges are already experiencing an increase in enrollment and pressure for services from students turned away from four-year

colleges and from unemployed who seek to enhance their skills or retrain for other professions; and

WHEREAS, any reduction in revenue will necessitate deep cuts in academic programs, services and staff based on institutional priorities as determined by Peralta governance processes and approved by the Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, institutional priorities will govern the quality, integrity and scope of academic services, the actual size of the colleges, staff, enrollments and number and frequency of course offerings and other services that the Peralta Colleges provide to the 650,000 members of our community will be determined primarily by state apportionments; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of The Peralta Colleges strongly encourages the residents of our service area, along with our students, faculty and staff, to vote approval of Propositions 1A, 1B,1C,1D, 1E, AND 1F on the May 19, 2009 statewide ballot.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of May, 2009, by the following called vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Elihu M. Harris, Chancellor

Secretary, Board of Trustees

PERALTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT