

Resolution No. 16/17-07 by the Governing Board of the Peralta Community College District

Resolution in Support of Proposition 55 (formerly Proposition 30 Extension)

WHEREAS, during the Great Recession California schools lost more than 30,000 certificated employees, and thousands of classified employees, to layoffs due to revenue losses; and

WHEREAS, additional thousands of school employees endured pay cuts and furloughs; and

WHEREAS, colleges and universities cut classes, laid off faculty and staff, and increased their tuitions and fees, pricing higher education out of the reach of many working families; and

WHEREAS, our ability to offer the best quality education possible to our students and their families suffered greatly during this period; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 30 has made an enormous difference between the massive layoffs and program cuts in public education suffered between 2008-2011, and the growth of funding and restoration of programs since its passage in 2012; and

WHEREAS, through the Local Control Funding Formula Proposition 30 has enabled a necessary reform in how state revenues are allocated to local school districts, steering additional monies toward school districts with high proportions of English Language Learners, low income families, and foster children; and

WHEREAS, many of the lost personnel and programs have been restored through Proposition 30; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 30 is a temporary tax, made up of two portions—a sales tax increase of one quarter of one percent, raising approximately one-sixth of the revenue, and an income tax increase on wealthy individuals making at least \$250,000 per year or families making at least \$500,000 per year, raising the other five-sixths of the revenue, totaling billions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 30 sales tax revenues sunset in 2016, and the income tax revenues on high income earners expires in 2018; and

WHEREAS, if Proposition 30 revenues are allowed to expire, even in a recovering economy the loss of funding support for public education will likely return schools and colleges to pre-Proposition 30 conditions, forcing layoffs, furloughs, pay cuts and program cuts once more; and

WHEREAS, the “Children’s Education and Health Care Protection Act of 2016” would extend the temporary income tax increases on wealthy Californians for an additional twelve years, while allowing the sales tax provisions of Proposition 30 to expire, making this extension of Proposition 30 revenues a purely progressive tax, paid for by taxpayers well able to continue to afford the modest increase, while benefiting all of public education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees go on record in support of Proposition 55 the “Children’s Education and Health Care Protection Act of 2016”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees will join and work with supporters of the Act in the community on behalf of its passage; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees will publicize this support throughout the community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 13th day of September, 2016.

Jowel C. Laguerre, Ph.D.
Chancellor