



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AMENDMENT 73 2019-1

WHEREAS, the Colorado Springs Education Association believes that every student should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential and to participate meaningfully in the civic and economic life of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado way of life provides every student the chance to succeed regardless of zip code or learning needs; and

WHEREAS, quality public education develops a competitive workforce that will drive a vibrant Colorado economy for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is experiencing a teacher shortage crisis and many teachers in rural districts do not make enough salary to meet the cost of living; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's investment in education is lagging behind other states — Colorado ranks 48th nationally in personal income invested in education; and

WHEREAS, education funding has not recovered from the recession; in the 2018-19 school year alone, Colorado schools are underfunded by \$672.4 million; and

WHEREAS, the loss to Colorado Springs School District 11 has been over \$260 Million since 2009, which could have been used to retain and attract teachers, increase resources for students, and reduce class size; and

WHEREAS, reduced funding is directly impacting the District's ability to provide meaningful educational opportunities for all students; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 73 builds on the successes of Colorado's public schools by expanding students' educational opportunities to prepare them for success in college, career and life; preparing a qualified workforce for decades to come; and ensuring that Colorado's economic prosperity is shared with every community from corner to corner of the state; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 73 will bring Colorado's investment in public education closer to the national average by raising \$1.6 billion dollars annually; provide sustainable support for schools by stabilizing school property taxes; provide additional funding for all students and address the most pressing needs of Colorado's public schools — specifically, funding for full-day kindergarten and a significant increase in funding for Early Childhood programs, Special Education programs, At-Risk students, English Language Learners and Gifted & Talented students;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Colorado Springs Education Association declares its support for the passage of Amendment 73 for the purpose of increasing funding of public education in the State of Colorado.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 18th day of September, 2018.

On Behalf of the Colorado Springs Education Association


C. Joseph Schott, President