



CORONA-NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



CALIFORNIA'S COALITION for ADEQUATE SCHOOL HOUSINGSM



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
City College • Mesa College
Miramar College • Continuing Education



San Diego Unified SCHOOL DISTRICT

May 28, 2020

The Honorable Holly Mitchell
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room
Sacramento, CA 95814

**EXCESS ERAF
SUPPORT MAY REVISION PROPOSAL**

Dear Senator Mitchell and Assembly Member Ting:

A broad coalition of education management constituents that serve California's public K-12 and community college students write to urge you to **APPROVE** the Governor's May Revision proposal to ensure sufficient state oversight of existing law that authorizes the shift of excess local property taxes from school districts and community colleges to counties – known commonly as excess Educational Revenue Augmentation Funds (ERAF).

The Governor's May Revision proposal intends to address the long-standing practice of miscalculating excess ERAF by certain counties that results in an **annual loss of \$300 million** in property tax revenue that would otherwise be included in the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee

by ensuring that counties accurately calculate excess ERAF. According to the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) report entitled "*Excess ERAF: A Review of the Calculations Affecting School Funding*", the three **ERAF miscalculations found by the LAO results in \$1.05 billion** over a 3-year period and has a dollar-for-dollar effect on **reducing funding available for schools and community colleges**.

It must be stated that current law **prescribes how counties calculate excess ERAF and that the May Revision proposal simply enforces existing law to ensure that K-12 and community college districts and the students they serve receive their legal entitlement of local property taxes**. Recent county opposition to this proposal is confounding and suggests that counties wish to evade their existing legal obligations.

While this issue is important to address in any given year, it is particularly important at a time when education funding is being reduced by nearly \$18 billion – forcing K-12 and community college districts to make untenable local decisions to absorb funding reductions that can have devastating effects on students, teachers, and other essential staff. It is imperative that every dollar K-12 and community colleges are entitled to under law be preserved for the students they educate and serve.

For this reason, on behalf of our students, we implore you to adopt the Governor's excess ERAF proposal.

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cc: The Honorable Gavin Newsom

The Honorable Toni Atkins, Senate pro Tempore
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly
Kimberly Rodriguez, Office of Senator Toni Atkins
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