

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE RIVERSIDE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 15:  
INCREASES FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES BY CHANGING TAX ASSESSMENT OF  
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 05 – 20/21**

**WHEREAS**, for four decades, since the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978, K-12 and community college districts in California have experienced underinvestment and devastating cuts causing California’s school funding to fall behind in providing services and resources for students and faculty; and

**WHEREAS**, the intent of Proposition 13 was to help homeowners, it also allowed major commercial and industrial properties to avoid regular assessment, resulting in an inequitable tax system; and

**WHEREAS**, the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act would provide billions in funding annually for cities, counties and special districts for affordable housing, parks, libraries, health and human services, libraries and public infrastructure – it is estimated that San Bernardino and Riverside Counties will receive \$848.9 million annually;

**WHEREAS**, with more than 2.1 million students at 116 community colleges, California community colleges are the largest system of higher education in the country—training and educating today’s workforce for jobs that lead to gainful employment and upward economic mobility;

**WHEREAS**, estimates by academic researchers at the University of Southern California (USC) estimate that the California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act reclaims \$12 billion in property tax revenue every year to ensure that our schools and communities have the resources to educate and support students;

**WHEREAS**, the California community colleges serve approximately three times the combined enrollment of the University of California and California State University, yet it receives comparatively fewer resources from the state on a per-student basis;

**WHEREAS**, California’s community colleges serve a diverse student population that reflects the ethnic and racial makeup of the state, significant numbers of students who have learned

English as their second language and non-traditional students who have gone back to school to build a better life for themselves and their families;

**WHEREAS**, the California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act will help alleviate the severe budget shortfalls caused by the economic crisis precipitated by the COVID-19 global pandemic and allow community colleges more options to serve their communities;

**WHEREAS**, the California community colleges, because of this crisis, are facing a deferral of \$662.1 million this academic year to address a shortfall in revenues;

**WHEREAS**, without additional federal support provided directly to the state, the colleges will be forced to absorb an additional \$791.1 million in cash deferrals this year as well;

**WHEREAS**, California community colleges are facing a potential deferral of \$1.45 billion this year which will likely cause our community college districts to curtail vital programs and services to students and communities for years to come;

**WHEREAS**, research has proven that investments in students raise achievement levels, lower poverty and increase the productivity of the workforce;

**WHEREAS**, the California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act does not affect property taxes for homeowners, renters and agriculture land owners because the initiative exempts all residential and agricultural property and levels the playing field for businesses that already pay their fair share in our communities and exempts all small business owners whose property is worth \$3 million or less; and

**WHEREAS**, the measure invests about \$4.5 billion annually for school and community college districts (11%), over and above Proposition 98 funding;

**WHEREAS**, this proposition requires education funding to be distributed by the Local Control Funding Formula which is an equity formula providing additional resources to the schools that need it most.

**WHEREAS**, Prop 15 revenues are allocated 60% to local government (cities, counties, and special districts) and 40% to school districts - both K-12 and Community Colleges;

**WHEREAS**, the revenue begins in 2022 and would provide an estimate of \$14.1 million to Riverside Community College District, \$13.5 million to Alvord Unified School District, \$32.32 million to Corona-Norco Unified School District, \$13.6 million to Jurupa Unified School District, \$23.4 million to Moreno Valley Unified School District, \$26.8 million to Riverside Unified School District and \$14.6 million to Val Verde Unified School District; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Riverside Community College District endorses Proposition 15, “The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020,” as it appears on the November 2020 ballot.

**RESOLVED** that the Riverside Community College District urges all California voters to support and vote for the passage of Proposition 15 in the November 2020 general election.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 20th day of October 2020, at the regular meeting of the Riverside Community College District Board of Trustees.



Mary Figueroa, President, Board of Trustees  
Riverside Community College District