

**BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF GLENN, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

RESOLUTION #2017-18-07

**SUPPORT FOR ACCELERATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF PROPOSITION 51
SCHOOL FACILITIES FUNDS**

WHEREAS, Article IX Section 5 of the California Constitution finds public education is a State responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Article 1 Section 28 of the California Constitution states that public schools shall be safe, secure and peaceful; and

WHEREAS, the voters of the State of California have, since 1982, consistently approved statewide school construction and modernization bond measures to provide resources through programs contained in Division 1, Part 10, Article 12 and Article 12.5 of the Education Code; and

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2016, voters of California passed Proposition 51 that authorized the State of California to sell \$9 billion worth of statewide school facilities bonds; and

WHEREAS, state school construction and modernization bond funds, as authorized by Proposition 51, are matched with funds provided by local communities through the passage of local bonds and developers fees; and

WHEREAS, the State of California is facing a more than \$2.5 billion backlog in project applications filed by school districts seeking matching state bond funds under current law; and

WHEREAS, many school districts filed their school facility grant fund applications back in 2012 and are still waiting on state funding to pay for school construction projects; and

WHEREAS, estimates place projected K-14 school facility needs between \$20 and \$60 billion over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, the Willows Unified School District has over \$20 million in facilities needs which may be partially funded by State bonds; and

WHEREAS, it has been one year since voters approved Proposition 51, the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016, and the State of California has only sold approximately \$600 million of Proposition 51 funds; and

WHEREAS, this current pace of school bond sales does not meet the outstanding facilities needs of school districts across the state and could deprive another generation of students access to safe school campuses that are built to meet their academic need; and

WHEREAS, an average of more than 90% of previous statewide school bond funds were committed within four (4) years of the measure's passage; and

WHEREAS, school districts face rising construction costs the longer the state delays appropriately-sized bond sales, which forces school districts and taxpayers to pay more for less; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 98 and the new Local Control Funding Formula are intended to improve educational achievement for all students but do not provide dedicated facilities funding; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates that quality school facilities have a positive impact on student academic performance, attendance and teacher job satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition for Adequate School Housing supports the acceleration of Proposition 51 bond sales so that school districts receive the resources voters promised to adequately serve students, families and their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Willows Unified School District Board of Education calls on the State of California to accelerate the pace and scale of Proposition 51 school bond sales in 2018 to honor the will of California voters.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Willows Unified School District on February 1, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Clerk/Secretary, Board of Education

I, _____, Clerk/Secretary of the Board of Education of the Willows Unified School District, County of Glenn, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by said Board at a meeting held at its regular meeting place on February 1, 2018, which action is contained in the minutes of the meeting of said Board.