

## **BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND ORGANIZATIONS**

### **SUPPORT PROPOSITION 58 –The LEARN Initiative**

#### **ADOPT A RESOLUTION For the November 2016 Election Support Multilingual Education!**

Over the next months boards of education and organizations can support the passage of Proposition 58—LEARN, a ballot initiative on the November 2016 ballot that will support the continued teaching of English in our schools, open the avenues to multilingual education, for all students and amend parts of Proposition 227. Proposition 58—LEARN is a result of a bipartisan vote in the Legislature sponsored by Senator Ricardo Lara (originally known as the Ed.G.E. Initiative.)

Proposition 58 gives school districts more local control, weaving the process into the Local Control Funding Formula's procedures and removing costly mandates including the current expensive waiver requirement. A more detailed summary of the Initiative's provisions is included in this packet.

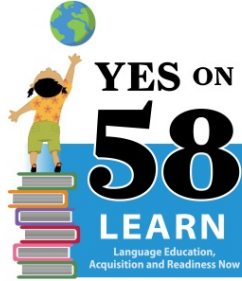
We want to provide our students with the highest quality education and prepare them for college and careers. Proposition 58 supports English instruction for all students and provides schools and parents with a broader opportunity to offer multilingual programs and prepare our students with the global skills they need for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy. A recent UCLA study found that two-thirds of employers preferred to hire a bilingual employee over a similarly skilled non-bilingual employee

The California Teachers Association (CTA), the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), the California Schools Boards Association (CSBA), the California Latino School Boards Association (CLSBA), the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA), California PTA (Parent Teachers Association), CABE, Californians Together, numerous individual school districts and public officials currently support Proposition 58.

Extensive research has shown that students who choose to participate in multilingual programs attain high levels of academic achievement, including English and other language proficiency.

This packet contains a sample resolution that can be tailored or modified to meet the needs of your community, organization or school district. Instructions and options on how to get a board resolution passed are also included. When meeting with leaders in your community or district, feel free to use the talking points and background information.

Please forward all adopted resolutions to Michelle Henry at [michelle@mwhconsult.com](mailto:michelle@mwhconsult.com) and Shelly Spiegel-Coleman at [CABEPAC2016@gmail.com](mailto:CABEPAC2016@gmail.com)



## **Why do we need Prop 58?**

Under our current system, too many California students are being left behind and not given the opportunity to learn English with the most effective teaching methods possible.

This is because of an outdated nearly 20-year-old law, Prop 227, which restricts the instructional methods school districts can use to teach English. This old law also limits the ability of English-speaking students to participate in language immersion programs.

Prop 58 amends the law to ensure all students can learn English quickly as possible.

It's time to remove barriers to learning for all students by supporting Prop 58!

## **Prop 58 Expands Opportunities for English Speakers to LEARN a Second Language**

The California Department of Education reports that only 312 out of 10,393 schools offer multilingual programs.

Prop 58 removes barriers to school districts offering language immersion programs.

Prop 58 encourages school districts to provide effective instruction so native English speakers can become proficient in a second language.

## **Prop 58 Helps Students LEARN English as Quickly as Possible**

Prop 58 requires schools to offer a structured English immersion program to English learners, based on what teachers and parents agree are the most effective instructional methods for those students.

## **Prop 58 Helps Students LEARN to Compete in a Global Economy**

Students with a strong proficiency in English who also speak another language are better prepared to compete in the global workforce. The advantages of being multilingual include higher paying jobs, increased creative thinking and being more connected to work and community.

Extensive research has shown that students who choose to participate in multilingual programs attain high levels of academic achievement, including English and other language proficiency. In fact, they repeatedly demonstrate greater achievement and higher scores than English-only students.

## **Prop 58 Restores Local Control to our Schools & Gives Parents a Bigger Voice**

Prop 58 eliminates decades-old legal restrictions imposed on local school districts, allowing them to choose the most effective language instruction methods to help our students learn.

Prop 58 gives parents the ability to choose a language acquisition program that best suits their child. Parents must be consulted when the school district decides on the language courses it will offer. Parents can also join with other parents to request a specific language instruction program at their school.

## **Prop 58 Has Broad-Based Support From Local School Districts, Educators, Parents and Employers**

Giving local schools the tools they need to help students learn is not a partisan or political issue. Prop 58 was placed on the ballot by a bi-partisan vote of the legislature.

Support for Prop 58's common-sense reforms to improve language instruction in our schools is broad-based and includes:

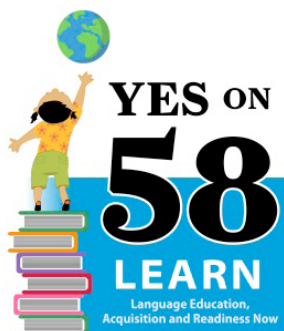
- Local school boards (the California School Boards Association)
- Teachers (the California Language Teachers Association, the California Teachers Association, the California Federation of Teachers)
- Parents (California State PTA)
- Employers (including the San Jose/Silicon Valley and Los Angeles Chambers of Commerce)

**Vote YES on Prop 58 to help our students LEARN!**

## HOW TO ADOPT A SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PROPOSITION 58

1. For current school board members, the attached resolution and talking points are provided to support your effort to bring a resolution before your board. CSBA has recently adopted as SUPPORT position for Proposition 58:  
<https://www.csba.org/Advocacy/LegislativeAdvocacy/BallotInitiatives.aspx>
2. For educators and community members the following options are suggestions on how to bring a resolution to a local board of education.
  - Develop the language for the resolution keeping in mind the members who are going to vote on the resolution. Use the sample resolution in these materials and then look at the talking points to see if adding any other language might be more persuasive for your community.
  - Once the language of the resolution is finalized you can either take it to a school district cabinet member or a school board member asking them to place it on the agenda for the next school board meeting.
  - Another option is to work with a group in your community and present the resolution at a school board meeting during public comment, asking the board to put the resolution on the agenda and to take a vote in support.
3. The goal is to have the resolution passed by the August or September board meeting.

Send copies of adopted resolutions to: Michelle Henry at [michelle@mwhconsult.com](mailto:michelle@mwhconsult.com) and Shelly Spiegel-Coleman at [mailto: CABEPAC2016@gmail.com](mailto:CABEPAC2016@gmail.com)



# Sample SCHOOL BOARD Resolution in Support of Proposition 58

**WHEREAS:** The Board of Education for the \_\_\_\_\_ believes that a world class, 21<sup>st</sup> Century education must provide every student with the highest quality education, including effective language acquisition programs ensuring all pupils become English proficient and encouraging all students, including English speaking students, to learn a second language.

**WHEREAS:** California employers across all sectors, both public and private, are actively recruiting multilingual employees because of their ability to forge stronger bonds with customers, clients, and business partners; and

**WHEREAS:** All California school children have the right to an equal opportunity to advance and excel in all subjects, including the opportunity to develop fluency and literacy in the English language and;

**WHEREAS:** Passage of Proposition 58 will provide all School District stakeholders with more flexibility and greater choices concerning the education of all students and greater opportunity for all students to access innovative language programs and;

**WHEREAS:** Proposition 58 was placed on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot as a result of bipartisan action by the Legislature; and

**WHEREAS:** Proposition 58 gives school districts greater local control in devising programs for their students to improve their mastery of English as well as of one or more languages in addition to English; and

**WHEREAS:** Proposition 58 is consistent with our dedication to improving student outcomes and our policy to produce graduates with skills which prepare them for college and career in our 21st century global economy;

**THEREFORE, Be It RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL DISTRICT endorses and supports the passage of Proposition 58 on the November 8, 2016 General Election Ballot.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Officer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

NAME(S)

POSITION(S)

**SAMPLE ORGANIZATION RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 58**

**WHEREAS**, All California school children have the right to an equal opportunity to advance and excel in all subjects, including the opportunity to develop fluency and literacy in the English language, as well as other languages; and

**WHEREAS**, (name of organizations) believes that a world class, 21<sup>st</sup> Century education must ensure that every student has the opportunity to learn, read, communicate, compose and think at a high level of sophistication in both English and in additional languages; and

**WHEREAS**, Proposition 58 is consistent with this organization’s dedication to improving student outcomes and the need to produce graduates with skills which prepare them for employment in the global economy; and

**WHEREAS**, California employers across all sectors, both public and private, are actively recruiting multilingual employees because of their ability to forge stronger bonds with customers, clients, and business partners; and

**WHEREAS**, Passage of Proposition 58 will provide school boards and parents with more flexibility and greater educational options concerning the education of our students along with greater opportunity for our students to access innovative language programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Proposition 58 provides greater local control in devising programs for students to improve mastery of English and other languages; and

**WHEREAS**, (insert organization’s name) supports Proposition 58; and

**WHEREAS**, Proposition 58 was placed on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot as a result of bipartisan action by the California Legislature; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the (name of organization) supports Proposition 58.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Officer)

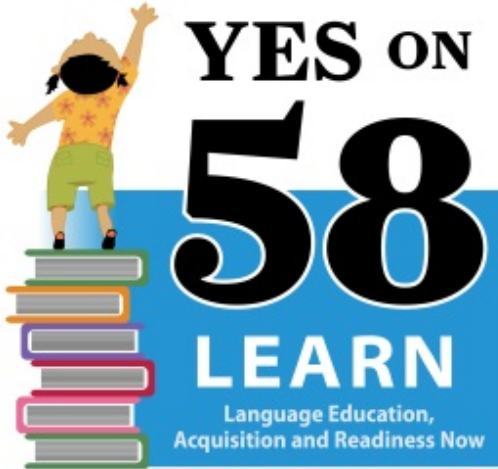
Date

NAME(S)

POSITION(S)



# The LEARN Initiative



Private schools and schools around the globe have made major advancements implementing new technology and multi-language proficiency in the classroom, giving their students an edge in the global economy. But public schools in California have fallen behind.

That's why we need The Language Education, Acquisition and Readiness Now (LEARN) Initiative. This solution, passed by the legislature with bipartisan support and signed by Governor Jerry Brown, and supported by educators and the business community, will appear on the November 2016 ballot.

The LEARN Initiative advances California's goals:

- ✓ **Highest quality education for all children**
- ✓ **Access to high-quality, innovative, research-based programs**
- ✓ **Better prepare students for college and careers in the global economy**
- ✓ **Gives more control to school districts over educational curriculum**
- ✓ **Empowers parents, teachers, and local schools to meet the needs of students**



Yes, you may list me/my organization as **SUPPORTIVE** of the LEARN Initiative.

Please select a category:  Organization  Company  Individual  Elected Official

Print Name

Signature

Date

Title and/or Organization Name for identification purposes if applicable

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Phone Number

Fax Number

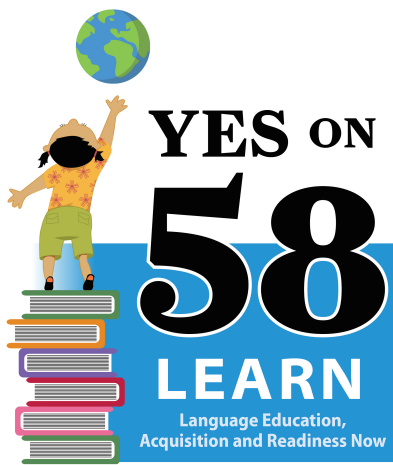
E-mail Address

Please email me updates

I/We can help in the following ways:

- Distribute materials
- Write an opinion editorial
- Communicate with employees/members
- Volunteer/Speak at local events
- Write a letter-to-the editor
- Our organization offers speakers in the following languages: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and send to Michelle Henry at [michelle@mwhconsult.com](mailto:michelle@mwhconsult.com)  
Printed in house with a surprisingly loud inkjet printer.



(July 11)

## **ORGANIZATIONS**

California Association of School Administrators  
California Association for Bilingual Education  
California Democratic Party  
California Federation of Teachers  
California Latino Legislative Caucus  
California Latino School Boards Association  
California School Boards Association  
California Teachers Association  
Californians Together  
Educate Our State  
Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce  
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce  
SEIU California  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
United Teachers Los Angeles

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Governor Jerry Brown  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson  
Alex Padilla, California Secretary of State  
Betty Yee, California State Controller  
Dave Jones, California Insurance Commissioner  
Senate President pro Tem Kevin De Leon  
Senator Ben Allen  
Senator Isadore Hall  
Senator Loni Hancock



Senator Ed Hernandez  
Senator Jerry Hill  
Senator Hannah Beth Jackson  
Senator Ricardo Lara  
Senator Mark Leno  
Senator Connie Leyva  
Senator Carol Liu  
Senator Mike McGuire  
Senator Tony Mendoza  
Senator Holly Mitchell  
Senator Bill Monning  
Senator Richard Pan  
Senator Fran Pavley  
Senator Richard Roth  
Senator Lois Wolk  
Assemblymember Nora Campos  
Assemblymember Ian Calderon  
Assemblymember Susan Talamantes Eggman  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia  
Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez  
Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez  
Assemblymember Miguel Santiago  
Assemblymember Tony Thurmond

Delaine Eastin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, (Fmr.)  
Robert Garcia, Mayor, Long Beach