RESOLUTION

IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION #116

WHEREAS, the Jeffco Public Schools Board of Education believes that every student should have the opportunity to reach their full potential and to participate meaningfully in the civic and economic life of the community, regardless of their zip code or learning needs and that a quality public education develops a competitive workforce that will drive a vibrant Colorado economy for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, the loss of state funding to Jeffco Public Schools is $106 million in the current school year and cumulatively over $862 million since 2009 due to the Budget Stabilization Factor; and

WHEREAS, Jeffco Public Schools currently receives 53% of its Total Program Funding from the state share; and

WHEREAS, state education funding is projected to diminish even further due to the current health and economic crisis, further exacerbating student inequities in access to technology and educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the return on investment in Colorado public schools has been well documented. Studies demonstrate that well-targeted dollars have a direct, positive effect on student outcomes, and that improving education in Colorado would generate billions for the economy. A 2018 study found that if Colorado schools produced graduates with sufficient post-secondary education to meet workforce demands, after 10 years of improvement Colorado would see 57,600 more high school graduates earning some form of post-secondary education. The exponential impacts of a decade of improvement would mean:

- $8.6 billion in additional earnings over those 10 years;
- 14,600 new jobs created each year by the tenth year, with that number continuing to increase annually;
- An increase in spending on housing by $1.4 billion over the decade;
- An increase in spending on automobiles and parts by $472 million over the decade;
- Almost $1 billion in new revenue and savings from lower rates of incarceration and fewer people relying on public assistance; and
- An additional $12 billion added to GDP over the decade; and

WHEREAS, Proposition #116 would decrease the state income tax rate for individuals, estates, and trusts from 4.63% of federal taxable income to 4.55% for tax years commencing on and after January 1, 2020, and would also reduce the tax rate for domestic and foreign C corporations operating in Colorado from 4.63% of Colorado net income to 4.55%; and

WHEREAS, Proposition #116 will further exacerbate the state’s ability to fulfill its commitment to providing state aid to Colorado public schools; and

WHEREAS, given student, family and community reliance on Jeffco Public Schools to meet public education needs within Jefferson County with fewer financial resources, the Board declares that Proposition #116 is a matter of official concern.

Our mission: To provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jeffco Public Schools Board of Education officially declares its opposition to Proposition #116 as it would be detrimental to public education in the State of Colorado and Jeffco Public Schools, and urges voters in Jefferson County to vote no on this question on the November ballot.

The Board authorizes the expenditure of district funds to distribute a factual summary regarding Proposition #116, in accordance with the Fair Campaign Practices Act, C.R.S. 1-45-117.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 1st day of October 2020.

By: 

Susan Harmon
President, Board of Education

Attest:

Stephanie Schooley
Secretary, Board of Education

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