



April 20, 2017

SUBJECT: SUPPORT AB 1182 (Low) – Teacher Housing Assistance Pilot Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Campbell Union School District in strong support of Assemblymember Low's AB 1182, which establishes a Teacher Housing Assistance Pilot Program that provides financial assistance to teachers in high-cost counties.

California is facing a teacher housing crisis. This crisis is particularly acute in areas like ours where the cost of living has significantly outpaced teacher salaries. In Santa Clara County, the average income for teacher's ranges between \$80,000 to \$90,000, while the income required to own a single-family home is over \$170,000 a year. This substantial gap makes it extremely difficult to attract and retain teachers.

The need to attract new teachers has never been more urgent. More than one-third of teachers are over the age of 50, while the supply of new teachers has hit a 12 year low. We need an influx of new teachers not only to address the shortage we have now, but to replace the wave of retirements we know is on the way.

Unfortunately, new teachers, often at the lower end of the pay range, can be particularly hard hit by the high cost of housing. AB 1182 can help ease that burden.

AB 1182 would set up a pilot program to help address the housing instability for teachers in high-cost counties. The down payment assistance and rental stipends provided in this bill could make the difference in whether there are enough teachers to educate the next generation of leaders. **[Information about why AB 1182 is important for your organization or examples.]**

As a district we are committed to developing and retaining high-quality staff at all levels to ensure we address the academic, social and behavioral needs of all students. Campbell Union School District is currently experiencing a shortage of qualified teachers. The high cost of living is affecting the district's ability to recruit the necessary number of teachers. This cost of living particularly affects recruitment in the Campbell Union School District as Santa Clara is among the counties with the highest cost of living in the state.]

It is for these reasons Campbell Union School District strongly supports AB 1182.

Sincerely,

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