

Resolution: Proposition 32, Special Exemptions Act

WHEREAS, the intent of Proposition 32, the Special Exemptions Act, is to silence the voice of teachers, nurses, firefighters, and other middle-class workers in speaking up for students and everyday Californians; and

WHEREAS, the Special Exemptions Act purports to be about stopping special interest money in politics, when in reality, it will not curb billionaire businessmen and Super PACs from continuing to infuse massive amounts of money into swaying the electorate; and

WHEREAS, corporations already outspend unions by more than 15 to 1 in politics; and

WHEREAS, Prop. 32 allows corporations, "LLCs," "real estate trusts" or any other form of business structure, exempting Wall Street investment firms, hedge funds, developers, insurance companies, and more than 1,000 Major Donors to California campaigns to continue to make political contributions without restrictions; and

WHEREAS, Prop 32 will virtually prevent teachers from being able to advocate for such issues as state funding initiatives; Class Size Reduction; school art, music, and sports programs; and school health and safety improvements; and

WHEREAS, Prop 32 will also have major implications for teachers and labor partners in being able to advocate locally for parcel taxes, school bonds, and community improvement ballot measures; and

WHEREAS, California teachers are the first to stand up for students and fight to protect their future; and

WHEREAS, this initiative could make it impossible for teachers to continue that advocacy; and

WHEREAS, if the voices of teachers and the middle class are restricted from speaking on important local, state and national issues, it will have serious consequences for the future of public education, our communities, and our state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board of Trustees supports the rights of teachers, school and public employees, and labor unions to make their voices heard politically; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board of Trustees opposes the Special Exemptions Act and urges voters to vote no on Prop. 32 in the November 2012 election.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

Steven Lawrence, Secretary