

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Resolution No. 11/12-49
Supporting the California Cancer Research Act**

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act is a state initiative which if passed by voters in June 2012 would raise the state's tobacco tax by an additional \$1.00/pack.

WHEREAS, over 332,000 California high school students are current smokers and 36,900 California youth start smoking every year and 3,383,000 California adults are current smokers; and

WHEREAS, according to the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, the \$1 tax increase alone would prevent 228,000 children from becoming smokers in adulthood and more than 118,000 adult smokers in California would quit smoking; and

WHEREAS, by providing the funding we need to keep California's anti-smoking programs strong, we can keep our kids from smoking and give smokers the help they need to quit; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act would produce more than \$156 million in annual revenue to provide programs to the state's existing tobacco control programs to prevent and reduce the use of tobacco; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Education would receive \$31.2 million for programs to reduce youth smoking; and

WHEREAS, The California Cancer Research Act would produce \$23 million in annual revenue to provide support for law enforcement efforts to reduce illegal sales of tobacco products to minors, and other anti-tobacco law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, cigarette smoking and other uses of tobacco remain the leading causes of cancer in California, and a leading cause of many other life-threatening health problems, including heart disease and emphysema; and

WHEREAS, despite continuing advancements in medical treatment and prevention, cancer remains a leading cause of death in California, with more than 140,000 Californians diagnosed with cancer every year; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act would produce nearly \$600 million in annual revenue to fund research into prevention, causes and treatment of cancer and other tobacco related diseases; and

WHEREAS, by providing funding to help leading researchers we can make important advances in the detection, treatment, prevention and cure of cancer, heart disease, stroke emphysema and other smoking-related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, by achieving significant health savings, the California Cancer Research Act will help respond to the staggering cost of tobacco in California. The savings accrued over the lifetimes of persons alive today who stop smoking or never start is \$5.1 billion dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board of Education does hereby support the California Cancer Research Act of 2012, which will reduce smoking, especially among children and fund critical research to prevent and treat cancer and other tobacco related diseases. A suitable copy of this resolution will be transmitted to the California Cancer Research Act Coalition: CaliforniansforaCure.org.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District on the fourth day of June, 2012, by the following vote:

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

Secretary, Board of Education