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ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

67 December 20, 2016

Lori Glasgow

LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Milton E. Foster III
Direct Dial: 951-215-4907
mfoster@f3law.com

October 20, 2016

VIA U.S. MAIL AND
FACSIMILE TO: (213) 217-4979

Lori Glasgow
Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Agenda
500 W. Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
Los Angeles County Registrar-
Recorder/County Clerk
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, California 90650

2016 OCT 20 AM 11:57
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
ASSESSMENT
APPEALS BOARD

Re: Submission of William S. Hart Union High School District Board Request for Consolidation to Even Year Elections

Dear County Officials:

Our office represents the William S. Hart Union High School District ("District"). On behalf of the District, we hereby submit to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, with a copy to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, this correspondence and the enclosed resolution, Resolution # 16/17-14. The aforementioned documents will constitute the District's request to consolidate to even years for elections of Governing Board members, commencing in 2018.

Background – Increasing Voter Participation and Compliance with CVRA

Over the past few years, the District has been evaluating options to increase voter participation and to reduce potential exposure to civil suits, pursuant to the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA"). As part of these efforts, approximately three years ago, March 2013, the District submitted a prior request to convert to even year elections. The District's request was denied at that time.

In the spring of 2015, following community outreach and public hearings, the District's Governing Board adopted a resolution on March 11, 2015 to approve the District's transition to by-trustee area election and establish voting trustee areas to ensure compliance with CVRA. In May 2015, the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization approved of the

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District's transition to by-trustee area elections. The first election under the by-trustee election system was held this past November 2015.

Senate Bill 415

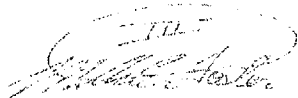
SB 415, approved by the Governor in the fall of 2015, creates and inserts sections 14050 to 14057 into the Elections Code with the aim of increasing voter participation across California. SB 415 prohibits such school districts, amongst other public entities/municipalities, from holding an election other than on a statewide election date if holding an election on a different date has previously resulted in low voter turnout. SB 415 defined this standard as "at least 25 percent less than the average voter turnout within that political subdivision for the previous four statewide general elections."

Request for Consolidation to Even Years

A few years ago, the District attempted to convert to even year elections and was unsuccessful. The District has become aware that the Board of Supervisors has recently changed its long-standing policy of denial of such requests. The Board now considers consolidation requests on a case-by-case basis, and further, has been regularly approving such requests, absent some extraordinary circumstance. In response to being provided this information, and to ensure compliance with SB 415, the Governing Board, on September 21, 2016, adopted the enclosed resolution seeking to consolidate to even year elections.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, and pursuant to the enclosed resolution, the District respectfully requests that the Board of Supervisors approve the consolidation to even year elections, to commence with the November 2018 election.

Sincerely,



Milton F. Foster III

Enclosures: Board Resolution # 16/17-14 of William S. Hart Union High School District

WILLIAM S. HART UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**RESOLUTION NO. 16/17-14****A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WILLIAM S. HART UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVING THE RESCHEDULING OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS FROM ODD TO EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS COMMENCING WITH THE 2018 GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the current date for election of Governing Board members ("Board") of the William S. Hart Union High School District ("District") is every two (2) years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd years (e.g., November 2017) (Education Code section 5000 and Elections Code section 1302(a));

WHEREAS, statewide general elections are held in California only in June and November of even years (e.g., November 2016) (Elections Code section 1001);

WHEREAS, generally, voter participation is greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections, including school board member elections;

WHEREAS, the Board believes that rescheduling to "even-year elections" may enhance voter participation in school Board elections;

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2018, Senate Bill 415 ("SB 415"), the California Voter Participation Rights Act takes effect and adds Section 14050 *et seq.* to the Elections Code;

WHEREAS, SB 415 prohibits a local government from holding a separate election "on any date other than a statewide election date" if the voter turnout in past local elections has resulted in a "significant decrease in voter turnout";

WHEREAS, the Board believes that rescheduling to "even-year elections" will reduce the District's exposure to litigation pursuant to SB 415, which provides a successful plaintiff the right to reasonable attorneys' fees and expert witness fees;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to be proactive and ensure compliance with SB 415;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that there may be a cost savings to the District resulting from aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections;

WHEREAS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future Board elections to be consolidated with the California statewide general election;

WHEREAS, Elections Code section 1302(b) establishes a procedure whereby the Board may change the election date for its Board members by adopting a resolution, and seeking approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors of the affected county -- Los Angeles (Elections Code section 10404.5); and

WHEREAS, if the change in election date is approved, the election date for Board members will be moved from November of odd years to November of even years commencing in 2018, with Board members whose terms would have expired in 2017 being extended to 2018, and Board members whose terms would have expired in 2019 being extended to 2020, as required by Elections Code section 10404.5(g) [refer to Exhibit A].

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above recitals are true and correct; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the William S. Hart Union High School District Governing Board adopts this resolution to consolidate the election date for members of the Board with the California general election in November in even years (Elections Code 1001) pursuant to Elections Code section 1302(b).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or her designee will ensure that this resolution will be forwarded to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and request formal approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting within 60 days after submission and after the resolution has been posted in accordance with law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or her designee will notify the Los Angeles County Elections Office that the District is prepared to pay the expenses of mailing notice of approval of the change in election date by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as required by Elections Code 10404.5(e).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is adopted and submitted to the Board of Supervisors at least 240 days prior to the next scheduled school Board election (Elections Code section 10404.5(a)) and if the Board of Supervisors approves of the consolidation, the date of the District's next Board election will be moved to November 2018 and each subsequent Board member election will be held two years thereafter in November of even years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is approved, the term of office of current Board members expiring in November 2017 will be extended to November 2018, and the term of Board members expiring in November 2019 will be extended to November 2020.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's superintendent or her designee is authorized to take such actions and execute such documentation necessary to effect the intent of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the William S. Hart Union High School District, Los Angeles County, California, on this 21st day of September, 2016 at a duly noticed meeting, by the following vote:

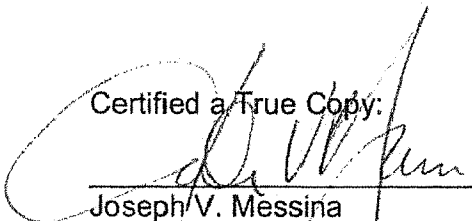
	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Robert P. Hall	X			
Robert N. Jensen, Jr.				X
Joseph V. Messina	X			
Linda H. Storli				
Steven M. Sturgeon	X			X

I, Robert P. Hall, President of the Governing Board of the William S. Hart Union High School District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the said Governing Board on the 21st day of September, 2016.

Dated: September 21, 2016



 Robert P. Hall
 President, Governing Board
 William S. Hart Union High School District
 Los Angeles County, California

Certified a True Copy:


 Joseph V. Messina
 Clerk, Governing Board
 William S. Hart Union High School District
 Los Angeles County, California

Exhibit A

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Current Election Year</u>	<u>New Election Year</u>
Robert P. Hall	2017	2018
Robert N. Jensen, Jr.	2017	2018
Joseph V. Messina	2017	2018
Linda H. Storli	2019	2020
Steven M. Sturgeon	2019	2020