

Resolution in Support of the Invest in Education Act

Whereas, for 30 years now, the go-to economic strategy at the State Capitol has been to cut taxes and privilege donors and lobbyists, yet instead of getting the jobs and economic growth promised from those tax cuts, we have received a public school system that has \$1.1 billion less in state funding today than a decade ago;

Whereas, all of those tax cuts have also shifted Arizona's prime revenue source from the income tax to a regressive sales tax, harming most the consumers with low and middle economic status;

Whereas, it is time to make investing in public education Arizona's top economic strategy, and the Invest in Education Act will create a guaranteed, sustainable funding source (that cannot be taken away by the legislature) to solve our teacher shortage and classroom crisis;

Whereas, the Invest in Education Act increases monies to the Classroom Site Fund* by raising the income tax rate on only the richest 1% of Arizonans with an estimated resulting revenue of \$688.8 million annually beginning January 1, 2019;

Whereas, the Invest in Education Act requires that spending decisions be made by elected school governing boards in an open and transparent manner with public review, that involves the input of teachers;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Arizona Democratic Party supports the Invest in Education Act;

Therefore, be it further resolved that although investing in education is a nonpartisan issue with nonpartisan support, the Arizona Democratic Party will encourage the collection of 151,000 valid signatures by July 5, 2018.

*This new tax revenue will be distributed to the Classroom Site Fund with 60% of the money directed to the base pay pot. The definition of those eligible for these funds is broadened from just classroom teachers to also include "any non-administrative personnel who teaches students or supports student academic achievement as defined by the school district governing board including, but not limited to nurses, counselors, social workers, psychologists, speech pathologists, librarians and academic interventionists."

40% of the new revenue from this tax will go to the menu money part of the Classroom Site Fund, and this can be used for Education Support Professionals (our classified staff) as well as go to pay for full-day kindergarten. We define classified staff in the initiative as "student support services personnel" (which means any non-administrative school personnel who provide student support and instructional support services as defined by the school district governing board including, but not limited to student food service, student transportation, and school site plant operations).

Resolution submitted by

Janie Hydrick

David Lujan

David Schapira