

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 108:

Dedicated State Income Tax Revenue for Affordable Housing Programs

WHEREAS, Colorado has become less affordable in terms of housing in recent years, and the rising costs of housing are outpacing wages across our state, leaving many Coloradans financially insecure without stable housing situations; and

WHEREAS, the affordable housing crisis has affected Adams County disproportionately, specifically public servants including teachers, nurses, firefighters, and law enforcement officers, who have been priced out of the cities where they work, which subsequently robs all of us of the essential services our communities, especially children, need to thrive; and

WHEREAS, Adams County experiences the highest rate of homelessness in the state of Colorado among students under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, educating roughly 12% of Colorado's homeless students; and

WHEREAS, 4% of the overall student population of Adams 12 Five Star Schools is identified as homeless; and

WHEREAS, home prices have doubled in the last ten years and one third of Coloradans worry about losing their home because they cannot afford the rent or mortgage. And if home prices continue to rise as they have over the last five years, by 2032 the median single-family home in Colorado will cost nearly \$1.7 million; and

WHEREAS, youth who are experiencing homelessness face many barriers to equitable access to their learning, including: high mobility resulting in multiple school changes; crowded living situations and lack of space to do uninterrupted homework; denial of enrollment without required documentation due to misunderstanding of McKinney-Vento rights and services by school staff; Lack of transportation to and from school; Stigmatization and stereotyping; Chronic trauma; and Exclusionary discipline practices; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive studies over the past twenty years have shown that students who at the end of their 10th grade year lack the adequate number of math credits required to graduate are at a far higher risk of dropout, particularly if their living situations are compromised; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 108 will provide \$300 million, or 1/10 of 1% of current income tax, in permanent annual funding for affordable housing by utilizing existing income tax revenue and not raising taxes;, and

WHEREAS, Proposition 108 is projected help local governments increase affordable housing by 3% every year; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that permanently increasing affordable housing funding will directly benefit the staff, students, teachers, and administrators of Adams 12 Five Star Schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education officially declares its support for Proposition 108.

Approved and adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting on August 17, 2022.