

**Adopted by the Board of Education, on Suspension of the Rules at First
Reading, at its Special Meeting of April 14, 2009**

Subject: Resolution No. 94-14A1

In Opposition to AB 223

- Commissioners Jane Kim and Hydra B. Mendoza

WHEREAS: Members on local school boards and county boards of education are elected by their communities to determine educational policies for all public schools, K-12, in their jurisdiction and are responsible for establishing educational goals and standards; and

WHEREAS: Assemblymember Fiona Ma has introduced an urgency measure bill, AB 223, which would mandate that the San Francisco Unified School District reintroduce the JROTC program in our schools; and

WHEREAS: AB 223 is a clear violation of precedent and principles regarding local control and responsibility over public education; and

WHEREAS: If AB 223 were to become law, the San Francisco Unified School District would be the only school district in California mandated by state law to offer this elective program, thereby undermining the principles underpinning local authority over education-related decisions; and

WHEREAS: Regardless of an individual's personal position on the issue of JROTC in our public schools, AB 223 would set a dangerous precedent in the State Education Code, allowing the state to circumvent and nullify local decision-making and selectively mandate educational programs that would otherwise be properly determined by local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS: The California Education Code recognizes the importance of local factors and requires that School Boards take into consideration "economic, geographic, physical, political, educational, and social diversity specific" to the local level in selecting instructional material; and

WHEREAS: The San Francisco Unified School District, along with other local jurisdictions, must retain the authority to craft local curriculum and program decisions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the San Francisco Unified School District opposes AB 223.

**Special Meeting
4/14/09**