

RESOLUTION NO. 28-20

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,
SUPPORTING SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST**

WHEREAS, the Schools & Communities First campaign is largely directed at investing in communities and education through the reclaiming of \$12 billion each year from large corporations; and,

WHEREAS, corporations have utilized loopholes in Proposition 13 (which was a response to increasing property values by homeowners) that tax them on property value at the time of purchase with capped increases in annual taxes; and,

WHEREAS, as a result, homeowners have been bearing the tax burden, while large corporations have not paid their fair share, which takes a toll on K-12 schools, community colleges, and local communities; and,

WHEREAS, housing advocates are also in support because many owners of vacant properties do not sell in order to evade property value reassessment, which leads to underutilization of these properties that could otherwise be used for residential developments, which plays a significant role in California's growing housing crisis; and,

WHEREAS, some education activists argue that Proposition 13 caused California to fall in ranking of academic performance from its rank of 7 in 1977 to 14 in 1978, the year Proposition 13 took effect, and California is currently ranked 41st in per-pupil spending; and,

WHEREAS, this ballot initiative would close the tax loophole, guarantee that businesses are held accountable for their share of property taxes, and level the playing field for other businesses that do not use loopholes to avoid paying property taxes; and,

WHEREAS, the Schools & Communities First would enforce taxes on property value that is reassessed regularly to ensure fairness; and,

WHEREAS, the revenue generated by the tax is estimated to be at \$12 billion per year, with at least 40% of funds going to public education and the other 60% going to local communities to pay for necessary services, including parks, libraries, health clinics, fire services, and medical services; and,

WHEREAS, the Richmond community would benefit immensely from the passing of the Schools & Communities First ballot initiative by promoting fairness, education, and unity between homeowners, corporations, students, and community members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Richmond, California is in support of the Schools & Communities First campaign to redirect property taxes on corporations to fund public schools and local communities.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held April 7, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt.
NOES: None.
ABSTENTIONS: None.
ABSENT: Councilmember Martinez.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa } : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 28-20**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on April 7, 2020.


Pamela Christian
Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond