ADDED 05/28/03

Requires 2/3’s vote of Board that there is a need to take immediate action and the need for this action came to the attention of the District subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

DATE: May 30, 2003

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Phil Day, Jr., Chancellor

Subject: SPECIAL

We Believe in California: Principles for a Balanced Solution to the State Budget Crisis
(Resolution No. 030530-S11)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

For generations, California’s state and local governments have helped hard working people build better lives for themselves and their children. We believe that all Californians should still have that opportunity to achieve their dream of a better future. That means having access to health care, safe homes, roads, and neighborhoods, and a reliable infrastructure that supports economic growth. It means that all children deserve quality public schools, community colleges, and universities, and that seniors can live and age with dignity.

Current efforts to address the state’s $34.8 billion deficit with deep cuts to services and transportation will cause great harm to all Californians.
These cuts would reverse the significant progress we have made in California in improving our schools and basic infrastructure, providing health care to more people, and beginning to shape an effective system of long-term care on which all of us can depend.

Cuts to important state and local services harm the basic infrastructure of our state and are not good for business.

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees support a balanced solution for a just budget that fairly spreads the burden of cuts and increased revenues. A balanced solution includes a dollar in new tax revenues for every dollar in cuts to services, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees reject the “realignment” of high-growth health and human services including long-term care. The state would cause permanent damage to these essential services by shifting fiscal responsibility to the counties. Counties do not have the ability to raise the revenues needed to keep up with the growing demand for these essential services over time, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees are opposed to any new spending caps that permanently ratchet down funding for education, health care, infrastructure investment and other important public services and never allow them to recover when times are good. Spending caps will lock us into a permanent budget crisis and condemn all Californians to a dismal future, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees supports the SEIU sponsored We Believe in California: Principles for a Balanced Solution to the State Budget Crisis resolution.

Dr. Anita Grier, Originator
Johnnie L. Carter, Jr, Originator
Rodel L. Rodis, Originator