

Resolution to Support and Endorse the Invest in MI Kids Proposal

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of East Lansing acknowledges that Michigan's public schools are the cornerstone of our communities and the foundation of our children's future; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of East Lansing believes strong public schools attract families, boost property values, and strengthen the workforce—benefiting everyone; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan's public schools are [underfunded by \\$4.5 billion](#), and more than 3/4 of all Michigan public school students attend schools in districts that are over \$2000 per pupil below adequacy; and,

WHEREAS, funding for Michigan's School Aid Fund has significantly decreased over the last two decades, and between 2015 and 2022, seven studies found Michigan does not provide enough money for the state's public schools; and,

WHEREAS, in the 2021-2022 school year, Michigan offered the lowest starting teacher salary in the Great Lakes region; and,

WHEREAS, the top 1% earners in Michigan pay a lower effective tax rate than everyday people pay (5.7% for the top 1% vs 7.1-9.7% for the bottom 80%); and,

WHEREAS, the lifetime earnings of Michigan's current K-12 students could increase by \$27 billion if their educational achievement matched the national average; and,

WHEREAS, A 10 percent increase in per-pupil spending improved low-income students' graduation rates by seven percentage points, and their adult hourly wages by 13 percent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the East Lansing Board of Education hereby endorses the Invest in MI Kids proposed amendment to the Michigan Constitution to impose a 5% fair share surcharge on annual taxable income over \$1 million for joint filers and over \$500,000 for single filers. This funding is to be used to raise funds for career and technical education, reduce class size and attract and retain educators in public schools across the State. These funds are to be used only for these purposes and must not be redirected and are subject to an annual audit.

Adopted: