

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
ARIZONA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
2100 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE
PHOENIX AZ 85004**

PROPOSAL FOR 2013 ASBA ACTION

The Governing Board of Amphitheater Unified School District No. 10 of Pima County, Arizona presents the following proposal for ASBA action as directed by the Governing Board on April 10, 2012.

In support of Political Agenda Belief Statements #1 (Advocacy for Children and Student Needs), ASBA will take the following action on the **Legislative** Agenda:

AMEND 1. To read:

Enforce constitutional provisions requiring adequate funding for legislative mandates upon local school boards.

Action Proposed:

1. Bring to the public's attention and to the legislators' attention that legislators have taken an oath to support the Constitution of the State of Arizona, and that the Arizona Constitution requires that the legislature "shall make such appropriations, to be met by taxation, as shall insure the proper maintenance of all state educational institutions and shall make such special appropriations as shall provide for their development and improvement." The needs for honoring those Constitutional requirements include, but are not limited to:
 - Legislation to remediate the current state support level for most special education students, currently less than \$10 per student per year, an amount that is blatantly inadequate and requires shifting of funds from already under-supported non-special education students.
 - Legislation that fully restores the Building Renewal Fund so that school buildings do not have to shut down due to leaking roofs and failed heating, cooling, and ventilation systems.
 - Legislation that fully funds soft capital so that students can have needed textbooks and supportive technological equipment.
 - Legislation that provides schools adequate funding to hire enough teachers to reduce student-to-teacher ratios from destructively frequent 35:1 to a reasonable 28:1.
 - Continuation of dual credit for high school students enrolled in community college classes.
 - Legislation to increase distance learning opportunities.
 - Legislation to promote Career and Technical Education opportunities for all Arizona students.
 - Legislation that provides for the specialized instructional needs of Arizona's students who are English Language Learners.
 - Legislation to provide the resources necessary to meet the legal requirements that every third grader is reading at grade level.

Sponsor Rationale:

If the legislative assembly approves the amended belief statement proposal for I. Advocacy for Children and Student Needs, part 1. should be consistent with and support that amended belief statement. The first paragraph focuses on the legislature's Constitutional obligations which raise ethical, and perhaps legal, concerns that have previously received insufficient attention. The items listed above add to the items previously listed with the exception of the original first bulleted item which would be redundant.) The new items add specificity to poignant and attention-getting needs critical to the continued functioning of all state districts.