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:

Subject:

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

Action Proposed:

Parents have the primary responsibility to provide all of the basic needs of their children. When parents choose to entrust their children to public education, our state is constitutionally required to provide a "general and uniform" system for that purpose. The state supervision of our public education is vested, ultimately, in our local school systems run by locally elected school boards. In cooperation with parents, our local school systems function *in loco parentis* (in the place of parents) and are legally responsible for the children entrusted to them from the time they leave home for school until they return home. For our local school boards to adequately fulfill their responsibility requires that our state legislature honor Arizona's constitutional mandate that it "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."

Sponsor Rationale:

The present introduction correctly states the primary responsibility of parents. However, the present introduction seriously understates the legal responsibility of local school boards to adequately educate and care for those children entrusted to them by parents. Further, the present introduction fails to address the constitutional responsibility of the legislature to support public schools by providing "proper maintenance" and making "special appropriations as shall provide for their development and improvement." Without the legislature fulfilling its constitutional responsibilities, local school boards cannot adequately fulfill their responsibilities to the children entrusted to them.