

## **Sample Resolution in Support of the IDEA Full Funding Act**

WHEREAS, the Livonia Public Schools School District recognizes the need for a strong investment in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); and

WHEREAS, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was first enacted in 1975 to help ensure that all students with disabilities will have access to a free appropriate public education; and

WHEREAS, with the enactment of IDEA, the United States Congress committed to fund up to 40 percent of the additional cost of special education, thereby promising to provide up to 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure, which is currently estimated at \$13,828 by the U.S. Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, since IDEA's enactment more than 45 years ago, the current federal investment in IDEA is less than 14 percent and our district is currently contributing \$10 million annually from the General Fund to cover costs related to the special education program; and

WHEREAS, the Livonia Public Schools School District and many other public school districts throughout the United States educate a growing number of children with disabilities that is now more than seven million; and

WHEREAS, our nation's school districts face an increased demand for greater resources to fulfill the needs of students under IDEA, including those for students affected by multiple disabilities whose individual education plans require more resources; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Livonia Public Schools School Board supports the IDEA Full Funding Act that will help strengthen the federal investment in special education by authorizing a ten year plan to fully fund the federal share of IDEA; and urges Congress' strong support for and passage of the IDEA Full Funding Act; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Livonia Public Schools School Board remains committed to providing students with disabilities and their families the supports they need, and acknowledges the partnership among the local, state, and federal levels of government which is critical to this shared investment in our children.