**San Leandro Unified School District**
**Resolution 17-39**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ("SNAP", ALSO KNOWN AS CALFRESH OR FOOD STAMPS), AND OPPOSING CUTS OR OTHER RESTRICTIONS TO THE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS The U.S. President and Congress are currently considering making drastic cuts to, and changes to the structure of the benefit entitlements provided by the SNAP program, through either the 2018 Farm Bill re-authorization or the 2017 Budget Reconciliation process; and

WHEREAS SNAP, in its 40th year, is a highly effective and efficient program that serves as our nation's first line of defense against hunger, which is a condition of poverty that affects our entire state; and

WHEREAS SNAP, known as CalFresh in California, is targeted to the most vulnerable households in California's communities, annually keeping 806,000 Californians out of poverty, including 417,000 children, during the last recession; and

WHEREAS One in four San Leandro children live in poverty and over 60% of San Leandro Unified School District students qualified for free or reduced price school meals in 2016; and

WHEREAS Nearly 3,000 San Leandro Unified School District students rely on CalFresh to meet their basic nutritional needs; and

WHEREAS Participation in Calfresh leads to better educational outcomes for low income children including the ability to concentrate, regulate emotions and engage in positive behavior, improvements in mathematics and reading skills, and increased likelihood of graduating from high school; and

WHEREAS Research also shows that participation in SNAP (CalFresh) decreases the likelihood of students needing to repeat a grade, which can have very significant long-term effects on the healthy development of children into adulthood; and

WHEREAS California's anti-hunger network is based on voluntary participation of members of the food industry, faith-based, tribal, public and non-profit organizations, and private citizens. Although these donations and distribution efforts provide relief to hungry low income children every day, it represents one out of every 20 emergency meals and is not enough to close the hunger gap without the SNAP program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the San Leandro Unified School District expresses strong support for SNAP/CalFresh, and strong opposition to any efforts to cut or block grant the program.

Approved:

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Diana Prola, Board President Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D., Superintendent