Declaration of Nelly Magaña

I, Nelly Magaña, hereby declare:

- I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to testify
 I could and would do so competently as follows:
- 2. I am 15 years old and just completed the tenth grade at Santa Paula High School in Santa Paula, California. I will be a junior beginning in the fall of the 2001-2002 school year.
- 3. In my English class of my ninth grade year, during the 1999-2000 school year, my literature book was in very bad condition; it was written on everywhere and the front cover was so damaged that it was covered with black construction paper. In that class we were also required to read the novel, Of Mice and Men, but there were not enough books for everyone. Some students had to share, and since there was only a class set of these books, we could not take them home. It would have been a lot better if we could have taken the book home; we would have learned a lot more because then we could have taken our time to study and read it carefully.
- 4. There are not enough counselors at Santa Paula High School for all of the students because there are only three counselors and about 1,600 students. One counselor is for students that are part of the agricultural program and for the A.V.I.D. academic program. Two are for the general student population. It takes a long time to see a counselor, and when you do finally see one, they don't spend too much time with you. This makes me feel like if I can not talk to them when I need to. Many times students don't get to see their counselors even when they request to do so because the counselors will send notes to the students and communicate with them in this way. If the counselors can't get to know us and don't call us in, then we don't know if we're taking the right classes and they don't give us information for college.
- 5. There is only one usable bathroom with five stalls for all of the girls in the school. Because there are about 700 girls at Santa Paula High, there are always long lines during breaks and at lunch. A door on one of the stalls does not close, so we really don't use this stall. Because of the long lines, there is very little time to go to the bathroom during the breaks, so I usually just hold it, but then that's all I think about when I'm in class. A lot of the teachers don't allow us to use the

bathroom during class time; I had a teacher who only allowed us one bathroom pass per semester, and thereafter deducted points from our grade when we left the classroom to use the bathroom after we used this pass. I also don't like using the bathroom at school because it is dirty and there are hardly ever any paper towels or soap. Everyday there are tampons and sanitary napkins on the floor because there are no boxes where we can throw them away. It is disgusting and very unsanitary.

6. There are mice in my school. In my English class of my sophomore year, the 2000-2001 school year, we heard noises of mice during class. We looked but we did not find them, but everyone knew they were mice. The teacher even told us that she had found mice in her classroom the year before. My teacher told us that during the 1999-2000 school year, there was a dead rodent inside the wall of a classroom; the smell got so bad that they evacuated the students and also the classrooms surrounding it, until they cleared the dead animal. I thought this was very gross.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 23 day of July, 2001 in Santa Paula, California.

Nelly Magana Nelly Magaña