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I, Sandra Magaña, hereby declare:

1. 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 16 years old and just completed the tenth grade at Santa Paula High School in the city of Santa Paula, California. I will be a junior beginning in the fall of the 2001-2002 school year.

3. Many classes at Santa Paula High are crowded. During the 2000-2001 school year when I was in tenth grade, my geometry class had about 40 students. There were not enough desks for everyone because there were so many students. About three students sat in the back of the class at the computer desks that faced the wall instead of towards the front of the classroom. In order to pay attention to the teacher they had to turn their chairs and their bodies toward the teacher. But when they did so, they had no desk to write on. It seemed as if it was hard for them to concentrate. I don't think it is right that they had to sit back there for the whole semester facing the wall.

4. The class was also so crowded that the teacher never learned all of the student's names. It is harder to learn when there are so many students because the teacher can't get around to everyone. That year, my biology honors class was also too crowded. There were not enough seats for all of the students so about six students were transferred out from the class. I did not think this was fair because the students who transferred were placed into college prep classes, even though they were honors students, because there was not another honors section. An honors class is more challenging and is a lot better for a transcript, especially if you want to go to college because an honors class also gives you more points in calculating your grade point average.


5. There is only one bathroom that is available for student use at our high school. Even though there are two to three bathrooms at the school, only one of them is left open. Because there are about 1,500 students and about half are girls, there are always very long lines to go to the bathroom. During lunch time we are supposed to eat lunch and go to the bathroom; but everyone tries to rush to the bathroom in order to get to the front of the line; by the time we're done going to the bathroom there isn't too much time left for lunch. There were times when I didn't get to go to the

1 bathroom during lunch or other breaks because of the long lines, so it was hard to concentrate in
2 class because I kept thinking about having to go to the bathroom. There is rarely toilet paper, soap,
3 or paper towels. The bathroom is always dirty with trash on the floor. Another big problem with
4 the bathroom is that there are always tampons and feminine napkins on the floor because there are
5 no disposal boxes. This is very unsanitary; we are not supposed to be around these type of
6 conditions.

7 5. There are not enough academic counselors at Santa Paula High School. There are
8 only two counselors available for the general student population of about 1,500. During the two
9 years that I have been at my high school I have never been called in by or spoken with a counselor.
10 One time I went to the office to talk to my counselor because I wanted to change an algebra college
11 prep class to an algebra honors class. I was told that my counselor was too busy, so an office staff
12 person changed the class for me. I think this is really bad because this means that counselors do not
13 call students in to talk with them about taking the right classes or other important information. We
14 need more counselors because our counselors are always so busy that they can not assist all of the
15 students. My friends and I complain about this problem. The counselors communicate with students
16 through messages; they send you a note asking you why you want to see them or give you a response
17 on a written note.

18 6. Many classrooms at Santa Paula High do not have air conditioning, even though it
19 is really hot for about two months out of the nine months of the school year. I remember that in my
20 English class during my tenth grade it got really stuffy and I felt tired all of the time. Some students
21 would fall asleep in class. We only had one fan but it didn't help because it was too small. It was
22 very hard to pay attention in class when the classroom would get this hot.

23 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United States
24 that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 25 day of July, 2001 in Santa Paula,
25 California.

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Sandra Magaña