I. Lizette Ruiz, hereby declare:

I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to testify.

I would and could do so competently as follows:

- I am in the eleventh grade and attend Huntington Park High School in Los Angeles.
- Huntington Park High only has a limited number of textbooks. In my Advanced Placement ("AP") history class there aren't enough books for everyone. At the beginning of the year, the class was very crowded and the administration decided to create two AP history classes without buying more books. We are supposed to use several books in that class, so if students want the complete set, they have to buy the additional book with their own money. Several students in the class have ordered the book but the teacher does not have them yet. In AP classes we have to study really hard and it is important to have the materials needed to do well on the AP test. It really makes me mad that I don't have the materials I need, free of charge. During the first semester of the last school year, I did not have a science book to take home. There were not enough books to go around. The teachers were given textbooks for the classes on a first come first served basis. I know other students who do not have books in some of their classes.
- 4.. My school also does not have enough teachers who can teach honor and AP courses. Because of this, there were over 40 students in my AP history class and last year there were forty students in my honors English class. My honors English class was overcrowded and some students had to sit on the floor and some sat at the teacher's desk. This went on for two to three weeks. The class was then split in half and we went to regular English classes, not honors classes. I did not get the honors English work that I was supposed to receive.
- 5. College standards require three years of a foreign language. I wanted to take French but my school offers French for two years only. Because this does not meet the requirements, I could not take French. I feel like my choice of classes has been taken away.
- only one AP calculus teacher in the school and that teacher teaches AP calculus on track C. This year I am on the A track and AP calculus is not offered on my track. After the classes for my track

- At different times of the year. Students who are on certain "tracks" are given limited course selections and options. Last year I was on track C, which means I attend school during the summer months even though students on track A have most of the summer off. Most internship programs and extra curricular activities available to high school students are only available during the summer months. I am really interested in the environment and I want to become a lawyer so I applied for a legal internship at Community for a Better Environment where I have been a volunteer for the past three years. In order to participate, I had to request to change tracks to the administration. It was really stressful to have to change my entire schedule. I don't think that it is fair that B and C track students cannot take part in extra curricular activities or programs that will help them get into college because they have been assigned to a certain track. Students who attend schools that are on a regular calendar don't have the same problems.
- My school is really unsanitary. There are rodents and roaches in the school. Regularly I see dead roaches on the school grounds and mice or rats droppings and feces in the my math, history and English classrooms. The teachers buy traps with their own money and put them in the classrooms. Sometimes we find mice tails in the traps. It is really disgusting.
- In May or June of 2000, the roofs at Huntington Park High were repaired during a time period of two to three weeks while we were in class. During that time, asbestos and dust were constantly in the air. I felt sick from the smell and could not eat.
- 10. Our bathrooms are not kept in sanitary conditions. They are filthy and the smell is terrible. Some of the doors don't have locks or are broken. At first there were no soap dispensers, and then we got soap dispensers but we have no soap. There is only one dispenser of feminine items in the entire school and it gets empty really fast. We have to go to the nurse to get the thinsg that we need and it is a waste of time. There are no trash cans in the girls' bathrooms and the floor gets littered with feminine hygienic pads. It is really disgusting. Whoever cleans the bathrooms only puts enough toilet paper in the bathroom for one day, and by sixth period the toilet paper is gone. The

bathrooms are locked during classes and I have to go across campus to the one that is open to use the bathrooms. In January of 2000 the students put pressure on the administration to fix-up the bathrooms. Little has changed since then.

have had problems with the water fountains for the past two years and nothing is beong done about it. In July of 1999, the water fountains at school became contaminated when the soil next door was watered down and it contaminated the pipes. We could not drink out of the water fountains. The school gave each class only a gallon of water a day to be shared by thirty people. I was only able to get one cup of water the whole day. Some people got none. This went on for a week. Last summer, the water in the drinking fountains, particularly in the P.E. field, was brown. I told the principal but he told me not to worry about it. The water was still dirty the next day.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this ______ day of January 2001 at Huntington Park, California.

LIZETTE RUIZ