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 I, Christina Flores, 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 eighteen years old and a senior at Fremont High School in Los Angeles, where I have gone to school for all my years of high school.
- other schools and it's a different story. My cousin goes to a valley school and I've been there to visit so I've seen that they have more opportunities there. It makes me mad to know they have those opportunities and we don't just because we go to Fremont. My little brothers and sisters are going to go to Fremont, and I think they should have the same opportunities other kids have. So I'm making this declaration to let everyone know what's going on at Fremont and to try to make a change for the school. We really need to do something about getting enough books for the school and reducing the overcrowding and making the school a good place for kids to be.
- 4. Fremont High is a multitrack, year-round school, and I am on the B track. I think the multitrack system is bad for kids for several reasons. First, when you finish a semester on the multitrack system, you don't even get time off before the next semester starts; you just go straight through to the next semester without a break to think about what you learned and to prepare for the next semester. Then, when you start your new semester, you don't stay on track for the whole semester, but instead you take a break for two months in the middle of the semester because you have to go off track again. It makes no sense to have to go to school on a schedule like that. Finally, not all the tracks offer the same classes, so the multitrack system deprives us of opportunities to take certain classes. For example, cosmetology is offered on tracks C and A, but not on my track, track B. I wanted to take the class, but the school wouldn't let me because I wasn't on a track it was offered on. Fremont doesn't offer a lot of elective classes, and it disappointed me not to be able to take the elective I chose.
- 5. Even with the multitrack, year-round system, the school is still incredibly overcrowded during the school day. Walking through the halls, you just bump into everybody.

When I first came to the school in ninth grade, I was surprised by how crowded it was, with the school so packed that you can't even walk through the halls comfortably. The school is so crowded that the administration just looks for reasons to kick people out of the school to lessen the overcrowding. For example, if you are tardy to class three times, the administration can make you transfer to another school, and I think they do that just because they want to reduce the number of students who go to Fremont. Also, we have to hold classes in the cafeteria and in the woodshop because we ran out of classrooms for all the students at Fremont. When I was in 11th grade, I took a Spanish class in the woodshop class because there were not enough other classrooms for us to be able to have a regular classroom. It was ridiculous to be in the woodshop taking Spanish. I also remember that one of my classes during one of my other years at Fremont met in the cafeteria for about a week, but I don't remember right now what class that class was.

- to sit down in for the beginning of every semester. For example, in my history and English classes when I was in 11th grade, students had to stand up in class for about one to two weeks, until enough students transferred out of the classes that all the students could then have seats. I don't have to stand in my classes now because I'm a senior and the senior class is smaller than the ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade classes at the school, so senior classes don't tend to have as many students in them. One of the classes I wanted to take during the first semester of this year was an art elective class with students from other grades, not just seniors. But that class had a lot of people standing in it, so I decided not to take the class because I didn't want to deal with having to stand in class again. I know other people still have had to stand in classes this school year because I hear other kids complaining about it and because I've walked by classes and scen kids standing. For example, I've passed by classes to say hi to my old teachers, and I've seen people standing along the walls. It makes me angry to see them and to remember when I used to have to stand in class.
- 7. In my English class this year, we have about 40 students in class. Because we have so many students, the teacher has to borrow chairs every day from a computer class nearby so all the students in the class can sit down during class time.

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9. I have computer class for my first period class this semester, and a lot of the computers in that class are broken. You have to come in to class early just to get a working computer. If you don't come early, then you just have to sit there in class, without getting to work on a working computer. I think about half the computers in the class are broken, and they've been like that for the whole semester. It's a computer class, so you're supposed to have a

computer, and it's a waste of time for half the class to just sit there in class every day without getting to work on a computer.

- 10. Fremont doesn't offer a lot of elective classes, but one class you can take is a "service" class. In service classes, you're assigned to a teacher and you ask the teacher if the teacher needs any help. If the teacher does need help, you do what the teacher needs. For example, this year I take service for Mr. Walter Lopez in his history class, and I help him by running his errands during his class time.
- 11. Fremont has a lot of classes that don't have permanent teachers. In my eleventh grade year, we changed teachers about every two weeks in my science class because we didn't have a permanent teacher. Also during my eleventh grade year, we didn't have a permanent teacher in my algebra class, so we had a few different substitutes teach that class. This year in my English class, we didn't have a permanent teacher for the whole first semester. We finally got our permanent teacher, Mr. Bell, for the second semester. I got used to not having permanent teachers in my classes, but if I stop to think about it, it makes me angry that we couldn't have permanent teachers for our classes.
- 12. The school facilities at Fremont are falling apart. For basically all my school years at Fremont, we've had big holes in the ceiling in the main building. It makes me sad to walk through the halls seeing gaping holes in the ceiling, with plastic bags covering some of the holes. I don't see why we can't at least get the holes in the ceiling fixed. Also, I often see roaches in classes in the last building way in the back of the school. This year, I had my homeroom back there, and when I was in tenth grade I had business organizations back there also. I have seen a lot of roaches back in that building.
- 13. Temperature is a problem every year at Fremont. We're a year-round school and it gets really hot in Los Angeles in the summer. But the air conditioning doesn't work in the summer, even though it's working fine by the time winter comes around. Since I've been there, the school has been fixing the air conditioning sometime in the fall but when it comes to summer again the air conditioning is broken again and it gets so hot in class. I'll be trying to study in class, but it's too hot. Sometimes my head hurts from the heat, and I can't concentrate.

14. We don't have enough open and unlocked bathrooms at Fremont. Other than the gym bathroom, we have three bathrooms for girls at Fremont. But one of the bathrooms is locked, so we really only have two bathrooms for girls, other than the bathroom in the gym. I don't include the bathroom in the gym when I'm counting the bathrooms at the school because the only time you use the gym bathroom is when you're in the gym. One of the two open bathrooms has about five stalls in it, and the other one has about six or seven stalls in it. That's not enough toilets for all the girls in the school, so the bathrooms are just packed, especially during lunch or nutrition. Sometimes you have to hold it and not go because the bathrooms are so packed. Also, the bathrooms run out of toilet paper, paper towels, and soap a lot. We don't have enough supplies for the bathrooms.

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 12th day of June, 2001 in Los Angeles, California.