

1 **Declaration of Adriana Trejo**

2 I, Adriana Trejo, hereby declare:

3 1. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to
4 testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

5 2. I am in the eleventh grade at Dorsey High School in Los Angeles.

6 3. There aren't always permanent teachers for my classes. I've been really unlucky
7 with my English classes. This year in my eleventh grade AP English class, we had a substitute
8 for the first three weeks, and for the next two and a half weeks we had a different substitute.
9 After that we changed teachers again. When we had substitutes, we didn't do anything. We just
10 read newspaper clippings and magazines. Or the substitutes would tell us to do homework for
11 other classes. I ended up dropping the class, because I knew I wouldn't be prepared enough for
12 the AP English exam, since we wasted a month and a half. It especially bothers me because I
13 love English. It's my favorite subject, and I want to have a chance to learn it. It's annoying
14 when you have substitutes and they don't teach. It almost makes you think, why even bother
15 going to class, if you know you're not even going to learn anything?

16 4. There aren't always enough classrooms, and sometimes there aren't enough desks
17 in the classrooms for all of the students. In my ninth grade English class, we didn't have a
18 regular classroom. The classroom we had to use might have been a cooking classroom, but I'm
19 not exactly sure. We didn't have real desks - we just had the cooking counters to write on. The
20 counters are higher than regular desks, so in order to write you have to kneel on a chair to write
21 on the counter. It's tiring to sit like that for a whole period. In tenth grade English, we used
22 three different rooms during first semester. One of those rooms was disgusting. I think it was
23 used by teachers and other adults as a lunchroom. The trash was always overflowing, and it
24 smelled. The second semester, we used the same room the whole semester. The problem was,
25 there were not enough chairs for everyone in the class. I think we had thirty-two kids in the class
26 and about five people had no chairs to sit on. They had to sit on the countertops for the whole
27 semester.

28 5. During the first half of the fall semester in my ninth grade English class, there

1 weren't enough books. The teacher had only one class set of books for all of her students, so we
2 couldn't take them home. We had to leave them in the classroom for the other periods to use.
3 The teacher couldn't assign homework, so we just didn't have any English homework for the first
4 half of that semester. There weren't even enough books in the class set for all of the students in
5 our class. There were about thirty students, but probably only about twenty-five books. We had
6 to share books in the class.

7 6. Overcrowding is a problem at my school. Because the classes are overcrowded, I
8 can't always take the classes that I want to take. You need two years of a language in order to get
9 into a college in the U.C. system. I wanted to take Spanish for native speakers last year, but it
10 was already full, so I couldn't take it. I had to take a service class instead. A service class means
11 that you help the teacher for the period, doing things like passing out papers. You don't learn
12 anything in a service class.

13 7. One thing that really bothers me is that they don't have enough college
14 counselors. They have only one college counselor for the whole school, and there are about three
15 thousand students in the school. The counselor won't see you for an appointment unless you're a
16 senior. If you're not a senior you're supposed to try to come in during lunch or nutrition. And
17 during lunch and nutrition she's not even there, because that's when she takes her lunch and
18 nutrition. It's a problem because even though senior year is when you apply for college, you
19 should find out about it and prepare for it before that.

20 8. There also aren't enough regular guidance counselors. This makes it really hard to
21 get your schedule set up. We have six classes a semester. During my first semester of tenth
22 grade, I couldn't meet with a guidance counselor for the first three weeks. So, I only had four
23 classes for those weeks. The other two class periods, I just sat around with lots of other students
24 who had the same problem. I didn't start two of my classes until the semester was three weeks
25 old. I had a hard time in those classes, and the teachers told me that I shouldn't expect to do well,
26 if I missed the first three weeks of the semester.

27 9. My computer class was supposed to be about the basics of the Internet, but for the
28 first two weeks, there wasn't any Internet on the computers. There are also about thirty kids in

1 the class, and even though there are thirty computers, only about seventeen of them work. The
2 rest of them are broken. So the kids that don't get a computer just sit around and talk for the
3 period.

4 10. They do construction at my school during school hours. They're putting in a
5 sprinkler system, and they're putting in new lunch tables. They have to drill into the concrete to
6 put in the lunch tables. There's a lot of dust and it's really noisy. It's really distracting when
7 you're trying to listen to the teacher. You're trying to concentrate and there's all this noise.

8 11. In my AP U.S. history class this year, we had an assignment on different
9 presidents. We didn't have any of the supplies we needed, like paper, scissors, pencils or glue.
10 So my teacher, who's really nice, had to go out and buy them herself, with her own money.

11 12. We had a field trip during school to the Museum of Television and Radio. It's
12 during school hours, but the school didn't pay for it. We had to pay our own admission, which
13 was \$4.50. If you didn't pay it, you couldn't go.

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15 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United
16 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 14 day of June, 2001 in Los
17 Angeles, California.

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19 Adriana Trejo

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