

1 **Declaration of Jose Gomez**

2 I, Jose Gomez, 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 fourteen years old and in the ninth grade at Belmont High School located in
6 Los Angeles, California.

7 3. Since the current school semester started on July 2, 2001, I have only received a
8 book for my world history class, sixth period. I have not received any books for any of my other
9 classes.

10 4. The restrooms at Belmont High School are often very dirty and smell bad. Last
11 year I attended school at Nightingale Middle School in Los Angeles and the restrooms were not
12 as dirty as they are at Belmont High School. Often there is no toilet paper and soap. The toilets
13 often get clogged up. During my world history class, sixth period the restrooms on the fourth
14 floor are always kept locked so when I have to use the restroom I have to go to a different floor.
15 There is at least one stall door missing in each restroom on every floor of the school.

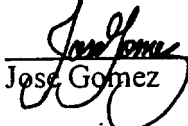
16 5. The hallways at Belmont High School are overcrowded. Last year I attended
17 school at Nightingale Middle School in Los Angeles, and the school was not as overcrowded as it
18 is at Belmont High. I have been late several times to my English class, third period, and health
19 class, fifth period because my classes are on the far side of the campus and it is difficult to get
20 through the crowded hallways without pushing and shoving my way through. Since the
21 beginning of the current school semester, my health class, fifth period, has been overcrowded
22 with students. There are approximately 35 students in the class and about four students have to
23 stand in class because there aren't enough desks or chairs. The students have to get chairs from
24 another class so that they can seat.

25 6. Belmont High School is on a multitrack, year-round school schedule. I am on "C"
26 Track. When I was attending school at Nightingale Middle School we were not on a multitrack
27 system like we are at Belmont High School. The "C" track at Belmont High is set up for
28 students to be in school for three months and then off for two months. I think that this type of

1 system affects the students' ability to remember what we learn while in school in such a short
2 period of time. I don't like the multitrack system because we don't get to enjoy the summer like
3 other kids who are in traditional schools. Most of my friends are in traditional schools and
4 because I am in a multitrack school, I am stuck having to go to school during the summer and I
5 can't spend time with my friends. I wish that I could attend a school that was on a traditional
6 system because not only would I be able to enjoy the summer with my friends, but I would also
7 be able to work during the summer so that I could help my parents by buying my own school
8 clothes.

9 7. In my health class, fifth period, the ceiling is missing ceiling tiles. On Tuesday,
10 July 3 and Thursday, July 5, it rained and the ceiling was leaking water. The teacher had to put a
11 trash can under the leak to collect the rain water.

12 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United
13 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this ^{J.G.} ~~3~~ 12 ~~th~~ day of
14 July, 2001 in Los Angeles, California.

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16 Jose Gomez

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