

1 **Declaration of Eduardo Cuevas**

2 I, Eduardo Cuevas, 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 have just finished the sixth grade at Gompers Middle School in Los Angeles,  
6 California. I will return to Gompers in the fall to begin the seventh grade.

7 3. I have never had a class at Gompers where the students each had a book to take  
8 home, and I did not have a single class in the sixth grade, during the 2000-2001 school year,  
9 where there were enough textbooks for all of the students in the class. In my sixth grade English  
10 class, we could not take books home because we had to leave them in the classroom for the other  
11 English periods to use. Even then, there were not enough textbooks. There were about four or  
12 five students who didn't have a book and who would have to share with other students. The  
13 books that we did have were in bad shape. They had excessive graffiti, and we couldn't read  
14 some of the text. Many of the pages were torn out of the books. When there were pages torn out  
15 of the part that I was reading, I would have to move and share with another student. In my sixth  
16 grade history class, we also did not have enough textbooks, and a few students would have to  
17 share. Our history textbooks also were missing pages. When we had to read from a page that  
18 was missing from my book, I would have to move my seat to look at someone else's book. In my  
19 sixth grade science class, there were only about twenty books for thirty students. Many times, I  
20 would not get my own book, and I would have to share with another student. The science books  
21 were in bad condition. There were pages ripped out, and graffiti on the books to the point that I  
22 couldn't read them sometimes. I feel that this affected my education, because it made it hard to  
23 learn science when I couldn't read my book. In my sixth grade math class, we were about eight  
24 to ten books short of a whole class set. The books that we did have were in really bad condition.  
25 There were pages that were torn out, and some pages were written on. This made math really  
26 hard for me, because sometimes I could not finish the assignment when an assignment page in  
27 my book was missing or unreadable. In my sixth grade reading class, there were no textbooks at  
28 all in the classroom. We read a lot of children's magazines. I think I could have learned more

1 about reading if I could have read from a textbook.

2 4. Our classrooms are in bad shape. In the classroom where I had my sixth grade  
3 English class and my sixth grade history class, during the 2000-2001 school year, many of our  
4 desks were broken. We would have to borrow desks from other teachers so that there would be  
5 enough desks for all of the students to sit at. In the classroom where I had my sixth grade science  
6 class and my sixth grade math class, the paint was peeling from the walls. Many of the desks  
7 were broken, and some of them had lots of holes in them. It is hard to write on a desk that has  
8 holes in the top.

9 5. In the classroom where I had my sixth grade English and history classes, in the  
10 2000-2001 school year, there were a lot of roaches in the classroom. I always tried to kill them  
11 so that there would be fewer of them. In the classroom where I had my sixth grade science and  
12 math classes, there were roaches and spiders in the room.

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14 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United  
15 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 19 day of July, 2001 in Los  
16 Angeles, California.

17 Eduardo Cuevas  
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