RESOLUTION No. 2021-01-131 FOREST CHARTER SCHOOL IN OPPOSITION TO ASSEMBLY BILL 1316

WHEREAS, charter public schools are an integral part of California's public school system, with 750 students are currently enrolled in Forest Charter School, and over 700,000 students statewide attend charter public schools;

WHEREAS, many charter public schools, especially nonclassroom-based charter schools have continued to serve students with high-quality instruction throughout the pandemic despite the closure of school facilities;

WHEREAS, many charter public schools, especially nonclassroom-based charter schools, serve atpromise students who sought alternatives to the traditional classroom setting for any number of reasons;

WHEREAS, the majority of charter public schools and charter school authorizers act in the best interest of the public school system and the students they serve;

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill (AB) 1316 seeks to prevent the recurrence of a singular outlier case of fraud when that fraud could have been prevented by sound authorizing and oversight practices;

WHEREAS, AB 1316 seeks to increase spending of already limited public school funds, by imposing impossible mandates and bureaucratic compliance requirements, resulting in up to 30% in funding cuts for many schools, taking money from student instruction, and failing to satisfactorily address the systemic authorizing practices that contributed to the fraud;

WHEREAS, AB 1316 stigmatizes all charter public schools by ignoring the hard work and high ethical standards of the majority of charter public schools, including faithfully complying with the transparency and governance requirements imposed by Senate Bill 126, and the location restrictions imposed by SB 1505 and 1507—all imposed in 2020 *after* the occurrence of the fraud perpetrated by the outlier charter school operators and *before* the pandemic and the parent-demand for high-quality nonlassroom-based instruction;

WHEREAS, AB 1316 is untimely in that students are returning to in-person learning as stay-at-home orders are lifted, and when families are looking for more flexible schedules and options, including enrolling in charter schools, causing more disruption and instability in our public schools;

WHEREAS, AB 1316 ultimately erodes goals that charter public schools should become an integral part of the California educational system and which should be encouraged;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Charter School Charter Council Board opposes AB 1316 because of the devastating impact it will have on students in this school, and hereby directs the Executive Director to take appropriate action to communicate this opposition to Legislators and the community.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of May 2021 at a regular meeting of the Forest Charter School Charter Council.

AYES:	5
NOES:	0
ABSTAIN:	0
ABSENT:	0

Sita Foreler Secretary Forest Charter School