More Information on SJR10 / 2024 November Ballot on Constitutional Amendment

<u>SJR10</u> was passed in the <u>2023</u> Utah Legislative Session and has replacement language for the Utah Constitution.

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to read as follows:

All revenue from taxes on intangible property or from a tax on income shall be used:

- (a) to support the systems of public education and higher education as defined in Article X, Section 2;
- (b) to maintain a statutory public education funding framework that:
- (i) uses a portion of revenue growth for expenditures from the Uniform School Fund for changes in student enrollment and long-term inflation; and
 - (ii) provides a budgetary stabilization account;
- (c) to support children and to support individuals with a disability; and
- (d) to support other state needs after the fulfillment of the requirements in Subsection (5)(b).

<u>Utah PTA Education Resolution - EDU 2023-1 | Education Funding</u>

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent associations oppose the dilution of the constitutional mandate to fully fund public education and oppose income tax cuts and credits that directly reduce the amount allocated to public education funding.

Resolutions are formal statements of PTA public policy voted by the delegates at the annual Advocacy Conference or the annual Utah PTA Conventions. These statements direct the advocacy work of Utah PTA.

Based on the above Resolution, Utah PTA voted to take a position of Oppose on SJR10

Utah Education organizations gave conditional support of SJR10, with the following conditions:

- A plan to increase funding for public education beyond inflationary increase
- An increased emphasis on local control and flexibility for local Boards of Education
- Reduction in administrative demands
- Elimination of unfunded mandates
- Reasonable tax rate policies

This year has been tough for education funding for the following reasons:

Doubled the funding for vouchers that uses public tax payer funds for private schooling and gives two times the WPU (weighted pupil unit) to private schools than it does for public education

Legislation on Lease Revenue Bonds makes it so we can build prisons but we can't build much needed schools

Income tax cuts means less for the Education fund

School Safety requirements without increased funding are one of the many unfunded mandates that came out of the session.

Affordable housing is needed but not at the expense of money going to schools and education has to give up their tax increment with no input.