

**REDLANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 42**

OPPOSING ADOPTION OF SCAQMD PROPOSED AMENDED RULES of 1111 AND 1121

WHEREAS, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has proposed amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121, which would require costly mechanical, electrical, and plumbing upgrades for heating and water systems in existing facilities, including school buildings; and

WHEREAS, these mandates would impose a significant financial burden on Redlands Unified School District (RUSD), forcing the District to *divert* critical funds away from classrooms; student services and essential educational programs in order to comply; and

WHEREAS, RUSD was not consulted or invited to provide feedback on these proposed amendments, despite the fact that they would have a direct and costly impact on our District's budget and operations; and

WHEREAS, compliance with these amendments would require substantial unplanned expenditures, including retrofitting HVAC and water heating systems, which would reduce available funding for teacher salaries, student programs, campus safety, and other pressing District needs; and

WHEREAS, these rules would effectively force RUSD and other impacted entities to transition to all-electric systems, further exacerbating the District's vulnerability to power grid failures, especially given the multiple power shutoffs experienced in our area by Southern California Edison (SCE); and

WHEREAS, relying solely on electricity for heating and hot water in our schools poses a serious risk to student learning, safety, and health, as power outages could leave students without heat, hot water, or proper ventilation during extreme temperatures; and

WHEREAS, increased operational costs (approximate average of \$5 million per year for the next 20 years) due to these regulations would place an unnecessary financial strain on the District at a time when public schools are already facing budgetary challenges and rising costs; and

WHEREAS, while RUSD is committed to environmental responsibility and sustainability, these proposed rules fail to provide viable funding mechanisms, incentives, or flexibility for school districts, making compliance unrealistic without negatively impacting students and staff;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Redlands Unified School District Board of Education formally OPPOSES the adoption of SCAQMD Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121 in their current form, due to their severe financial impact on our District and the increased risk of power-related disruptions to student learning.
2. The Redlands Unified School District Board of Education urges the SCAQMD Governing Board to reject these amendments and instead work collaboratively with school districts to develop cost-effective, flexible solutions that do not take resources away from students.
3. The Redlands Unified School District Board of Education expresses serious concerns about the reliance on an all-electric system, given the unreliability of the power grid and the history of outages by SCE, which could disrupt essential school functions and student safety.

4. The Redlands Unified School District Board of Education directs staff to formally communicate this opposition to the SCAQMD Governing Board, regional stakeholders, and elected representatives, making clear that these regulations impose an unacceptable financial strain on public education and put students at risk.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Redlands Unified School District Board of Education on this 22 day of April 2025, by the following vote:

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
REDLANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

ABSTAIN: _____
