

RESOLUTION NO. 06-24/25

**OF THE SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
OPPOSITION TO THE VENTANA HILLS TERRITORY
TRANSFER PETITION AND FURTHER REQUESTING
THE FRESNO COUNTY COMMITTEES ON SCHOOL
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION DENY THE PETITION**

WHEREAS, on or about May 6, 2024, the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization (“County Committee”) received a Petition to Transfer Territory currently within the Sierra Unified School District (“District”) to the Clovis Unified School District (the “Petition”) filed by Chief Petitioner, Mark Thurston and signed by several residents of the Ventana Hills neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the District, staff and consultants have reviewed the Petition to determine the impacts it would have on the District should it be approved and has concluded that the Petition is not in the best interests of the District and that the Petition appears to have been filed for the primary purpose of increasing the property values in the territory proposed for transfer; and

WHEREAS, the District has determined that the Petition would have a substantial adverse impact on the District fiscally and on the District’s ability to provide educational opportunities to its students and would set a bad precedent for other adjacent and nearby territory resulting in further erosion of the District’s current jurisdictional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the loss of students, coupled with the loss of assessed valuation of the real property proposed for transfer, would create an undue hardship for the District which has already seen its enrollment decline and even now has a bond measure on the ballot at the upcoming November, 2024 general election to address facility needs that have persisted within the District for many years; and

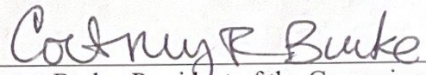
WHEREAS, owing to the negative impacts associated with the approval of the Petition, the District desires to publicly express its opposition to the Petition and further requests that the Fresno County Committee summarily deny the Petition.

NOW THEREFORE, the Governing Board of the Sierra Unified School District (the “Board”) hereby finds, determines, declares, orders and resolves as follows:

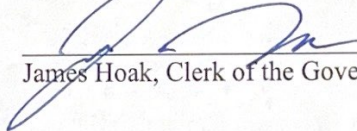
- Section 1. That all of the recitals set forth above are true and correct, and the Board so finds and determines.
- Section 2. That the Board opposes the Petition.
- Section 3. That the Board respectfully requests the County Committees deny the Petition.
- Section 4. That the Board reserves its right to make a different determination on any subsequent Petition.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Sierra Unified School District on the 12th day of August 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:	<u>7</u>
NOES:	<u>0</u>
ABSTENTIONS:	<u>0</u>
ABSENTS:	<u>0</u>


Cortney Burke, President of the Governing Board

Attested to:


James Hoak, Clerk of the Governing Board