



REVISED

# Vote NO on SB 31

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## SB 31– Classroom Size Amendments Chief Sponsor: Karen Morgan

SB 31 spends between \$12.7 million and \$31.2 million in FY 2013 towards class size reduction depending on whether the district hires paraprofessionals or teachers.

- **Class Size Reduction Has Minimal Impact on Student Achievement:** In the most rigorous studies, class size reduction produces only a marginal increase in student achievement. (The Evidence on Class Size. Eric A. Hanushek. In Susan E. Mayer and Paul E. Peterson (Eds.) *In Earning and learning: How schools matter*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 1999, p. 145)
- **Class size reduction is VERY expensive:** To reduce class sizes enough to gain a marginal difference in student achievement, income taxes, property taxes and others would likely need to be DOUBLED.
- **More Effective Tools:** There are many more effective tools available to increase student achievement, such as alternative routes to licensure, greater parental involvement in their children’s education, and 21st century tools that are already helping ELL students and those with learning disabilities. (Reichardt, Robert . *The Cost of Class Size Reduction: Advice for Policy Makers*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2000. [http://www.rand.org/pubs/rgs\\_dissertations/RGSD156](http://www.rand.org/pubs/rgs_dissertations/RGSD156).)