

UNCOMPAGRE BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES RESOLUTION ON ERAING THE NEGATIVE FACTOR

WHEREAS, the Uncompahgre Board of Cooperative Services (UnBOCS) is primarily the Administrative Unit for Special Education in the five member district; Ridgway, Ouray, Telluride, Norwood, and West End.

WHEREAS, the UnBOCS has three sources of revenue; Federal (IDEA), State (ECEA) and local contributions from member districts.

WHEREAS, Federal funding (IDEA) has been cut due to Sequestration.

WHEREAS, Special Education Funding state wide, IDEA and ECEA combine, is short \$430M this fiscal year.

WHEREAS, the combined impact of the Negative Factor on the UnBOCS member districts is \$2,565,899 in 2011-12, \$3,341,16 in 2012-13, \$3,261,882 in 2013-14 for a total impact over these three years of \$9,168,942.

As a result, since the UnBOCS cannot legally or morally reduce services to Special Education students, to maintain the level of services the UnBOCS has drawn down reserves this fiscal year in the amount of \$77,000. This will leave a balance of \$37,188 in the IDEA reserves held by CDE. If cuts made to special education funding is not restored through IDEA or ECEA or both the member districts will be required to increase their local contribution while enduring the impacts of the Negative Factor.

WHEREAS. State revenues are increasing and the legislature has discussed paying off the state payday holiday and replenishing cash funds, the legislature must make it a priority to return to a sensible and constitutional system of school finance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Members Districts of the Uncompahgre Board of Cooperative Services calls upon the Colorado Legislature to immediately eliminate the Negative factor in K-12 educational funding while funding special education at appropriate levels.

Dated this 6th day of April, 2014

Cheryl C Miller
President UnBOCS Board