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Proposal

- \$75 million for a \$12.50 per pupil increase for all SELPAs.
 - Data show that “high cost” students have increased faster than state funding (see Figure 1 on next page).
 - Funds would protect SELPAs if there are “excess” mental health costs.

- \$75 million to partially equalize education funding.
 - Significant disparities in funding exist (see Figure 2 on page 3).
 - Equalization targets would be based on 90th percentile funding level.
 - Provides a proportional equalization adjustment to LACOE Court School SELPA (in lieu of one-time funds included in the Assembly version).

Figure 1—Growth in the Special Education Population

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- Data show that the number of students assessed with “high cost” disabilities grew significantly between 2000-01 and 2004-05. This data suggest that state funding has not kept pace with local costs.

Special Education Enrollment and Cost Data			
Cost Data From the 2003 AIR Report			
Disability Category	Number of Students		Average Estimated Cost Per Student^a 2002-03
	2004-05	Change From 2000-01	
Specific learning disability	328,381	-5.9%	\$4,064
Speech-language impairment	176,265	6.5	5,500
Mental retardation	44,263	8.7	10,727
Other health impairment	35,650	69.6	6,062
Autism	29,370	109.2	29,735
Emotional disturbance	27,912	24.9	11,587
Orthopedic impairment	15,321	5.1	17,251
Other	24,807	8.0	19,888
All special education	681,969	4.8	\$7,241
All K-12 students	6,322,098	4.5	n/a

^a Additional special education costs net of revenue limit funding.

Figure 2—SELPA Funding Rates

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- ☑ Special education funding also has large disparities in the per-pupil amount provided to SELPAs. Most SELPAs receive between \$550 to \$560 per pupil. A significant number of SELPAs, however, receive much higher per-pupil amounts.

