Suggested Script for Speaking at School Board Meeting

Suggested script for a two-minute presentation before the school board that is proposing a violation of the State Ed Code, as defined below.

- My name is ( ) and I am a resident in this district. My children/grandchildren attend/attended school in this district (if applicable).
- But today I am speaking on behalf of the American Association of University Women. AAUW supports academic freedom, protection from censorship and bias-free education, as well as access to curriculum that represents historically accurate information.
- According to the California Department of Education: "In California, the State Board of Education decides on the standards for all students…" I point this out to remind you that local school boards do not determine those standards.
- Keeping this in mind, I refer to Ed. Code sect 51204.5: requiring Social Science instruction to include the role and contributions of both men and women, members of various races/ethnic groups, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans, persons with disabilities, and members of other ethnic and cultural groups, to the economic, political, and social development of California and the nation.

- In addition, the updates to Title IX have been released and will take effect on August 1st of this year. These changes clarify and affirm the rights of students to be protected from harassment and/or discrimination based on sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, sexual orientation and/or gender identity, and specifically address discriminatory policies that disproportionately impact trans and non-gender students. This means that students must have access to facilities in accordance with their gender identity, including bathrooms and locker rooms.
- Actions taken by this board would be construed as a violation of students' First Amendment rights as well as California's constitutional guarantee of the right against discrimination.
- **We urge the Board to vote in favor of upholding those rights.**