

## **MEMORANDUM**

February 27, 2017

TO: INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: PAUL GOODWIN

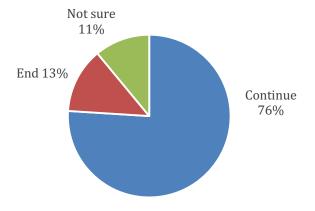
Goodwin Simon Strategic Research

**RE:** Voter Support for Continuing the School District of Choice Program

A recent telephone survey of 801 California voters who participated in the November, 2016 election found overwhelming support for the School District of Choice program.

The program allows parents to place their children in a public school outside of their home district if the district has space for and is willing to accept the student.

In the poll, conducted between February 16 and 22, 2017, we found that 76% of California voters support continuing this program; just 13% want to end it.



There is no significant difference in response to the Districts of Choice program by party, by gender, by ideology, or by major media market. That is, about three of four Democrats, Republicans, and Independents support the program; three of four men and women support it, and three of four voters regardless of geography support it.

Further <u>58%</u> overall "strongly" support having the program continue, compared to just 9% who strongly support ending it.

It is rare to find a public policy so widely appreciated by voters across party, ideological, and geographic lines. But the School District of Choice program has accomplished this feat and is deserving of continued backing from the Legislature.