

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 2003 AGENDA
Item No. W-5

<p>TITLE: San Diego Unified School District is requesting that <i>Education Code</i> (E.C.) Section 56836.22(c) which designates funds for purchase of specialized books, materials and equipment – to be instead spent on staff time to transcribe those materials into Braille for use by blind students.</p> <p>CDSIS: 21-12-2002</p>	<p><u> X </u> ACTION <u> </u> INFORMATION <u> </u> PUBLIC HEARING <u> </u> CONSENT</p>
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RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends:

Approval, for the 02-03 fiscal year only, waiver will not become permanent under the provisions of E.C. 33051 (c). Approval for use of funds is restricted to the stated purpose in the waiver: transcribing state adopted math and literacy instructional materials into braille and large print that are not available from any outside source.

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:

A waiver of this type not previously been requested of the SBE.

Summary of Key Issue(s):

The substantial math and literacy adoptions in 2002-03 created a need for a large number of textbooks and related workbooks to be available in Braille and large print text. Because many of the needed materials are not available in Braille or large print text from outside sources, the District has used the \$34,944 of federal dollars from *Specialized Services to students with Low Incidence Disabilities* fund to support the necessary staff time to transcribe the required materials.

Additional materials, however, still need to be transcribed. Accordingly, this waiver is being requested to allow the District to use funds provided under E.C. 56836.22 (c) for **purchase of specialized books, materials and equipment, to support staff to complete transcribing the materials. If these textbooks were available from the publisher or outside source they would have been legitimately purchased by the E.C. 56836.22 (c) funds.**

The Department generally feels that the fund sources for specialized purchase of materials and payment of staff time should be kept separate, however this seems to be a special circumstance for San Diego this year, therefore, the Department is recommending approval for a one year time period.

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on 7/29/02 and 7/30/02

Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

Neutral Support Oppose

Name of **bargaining unit representative**: **CSEA** (California School Employees Association was in **support** **SDEA** (San Diego Education Association) was **neutral** and **OTBS** (Braille transcribers) **did not respond**.

Public hearing identified by (choose one or more):

posting in a newspaper posting at each school other (specify)

Public hearing held on: 12/10/02

Local board approval date: 12/10/02

Advisory committee(s) consulted: 09/06/02

Objections raised (choose one): None Objections are attached on separate sheet

Date consulted: _____

Effective dates of request: 12/1/02

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

No increased costs to the state

Background Information:

This is an action item and supporting documentation is attached.