

The Senate Education and Youth Committee offered the following substitute to SR 480:

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging local boards of education to adopt policies requiring that vending machines in schools
2 be stocked with healthy options; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, childhood obesity is a serious public health issue for many children in our
4 nation, and overweight children have an increased risk for health problems, including
5 diabetes, heart disease, poor female reproductive health, and low self-esteem; and

6 WHEREAS, balanced nutrition plays a critical role in achieving good health by helping to
7 maintain a healthy body weight and prevent chronic disease; and

8 WHEREAS, a student's dietary habits are influenced by the food environment of their
9 schools, and studies show that limiting access to low-nutrient, energy-dense foods to children
10 at school can lower daily caloric intake and assist in controlling their weight; and

11 WHEREAS, it is important to provide healthy snack options in our public schools, and
12 bringing healthier fare to school vending machines will help to improve student nutrition and
13 reduce childhood obesity; and

14 WHEREAS, pursuant to a federal law that was enacted earlier this year, the U.S. Department
15 of Agriculture is authorized to impose nutritional standards on all snacks and refreshments
16 sold in schools; and

17 WHEREAS, it is imperative that this body ensure that everything within its ability is being
18 done to provide healthy snack options for our children while they are at school.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
20 urge local boards of education to adopt policies requiring that vending machines in schools
21 be stocked with healthy options.