

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

PARENTS ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

SANGER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NUMBER 2026070684

ORDER GRANTING DISTRICT'S PEREMPTORY CHALLENGE

AUGUST 24, 2026

On August 24, 2026, before the prehearing conference, Sanger Unified School District filed a notice of peremptory challenge with the Office of Administrative Hearings, called OAH, to Administrative Law Judge Rita Defilippis. An Administrative Law Judge is called ALJ. The peremptory challenge is made pursuant to Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), of the Administrative Procedures Act, and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034.

Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), establishes the criteria for disqualification of the presiding officer. A party is entitled to one peremptory challenge, also called disqualification without cause, to an ALJ assigned to an OAH hearing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subds. (a) & (b); Gov. Code, § 11425.40, subd. (d).) A peremptory challenge is not allowed if made after the hearing starts. In addition, if at

the time of a scheduled prehearing conference, an ALJ has been assigned to the hearing, any challenge to the assigned ALJ must be made no later than the start of that prehearing conference. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (c).) A peremptory challenge is not allowed on reconsideration or remand. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (a).)

The peremptory challenge is timely and granted. The case is now assigned to ALJ Jessica Plitt, and all scheduled dates remain on calendar.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Tara Doss

Tara Doss

Presiding Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings