



President

Julie Bruno
Sierra College

Vice President

John Stankas
San Bernardino Valley College

Secretary

Dolores Davison
Foothill College

Treasurer

John Freitas
Los Angeles City College

Area A Representative

Ginni May
Sacramento City College

Area B Representative

Conan McKay
Mendocino College

Area C Representative

Rebecca Eikey
College of the Canyons

Area D Representative

Craig Rutan
Santiago Canyon College

North Representative

Cheryl Aschenbach
Lassen College

North Representative

Carrie Roberson
Butte College

South Representative

Randy Beach
Southwestern College

South Representative

Lorraine Slattery-Farrell
Mt. San Jacinto College

Representative at Large

Sam Foster
Fullerton College

Representative at Large

LaTonya Parker
Moreno Valley College

April 10, 2018

Hon. Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Community College Budget Proposal CAFYES Expansion

Dear Assemblymember Ting:

The Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges wishes to express its support for the expansion of funding the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program (CAFYES).

California Community Colleges Extended Opportunity Programs and Services Association (CCCEOPSA) is requesting \$5 million in ongoing funds in the 2018-19 budget to cover the expansion costs of the CAYFES (now called NextUp) foster care services envisioned by SB 12 (Beall, 2017). The support these programs provide for former foster youth is critical to ensuring that young adults without a family safety-net are afforded the opportunity for advancement to the middle class. In the absence of any other support, it is incumbent upon California to provide for these young adults in their pursuit of higher education.

As a component of Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOPS), the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program (CAFYES/NextUp) was authorized by SB 1023 (Liu, 2014) with \$15 million allocated in the budget starting in 2015-16. As a result of that funding, CAFYES/NextUp strengthened the capacity of community college districts to support the higher education success, health, and well-being of some of the nearly 13,000 current and former foster youth who are enrolled in the community colleges. However, much more is needed to ensure support is provided to all of California's foster youth.

While the passage of SB 12 (Beall, 2017) allowed for the doubling of participating community college districts from the original 10 to 20, additional funds were not allocated in the current year budget to support the expansion. EOPS professionals are working diligently with the California Community College Chancellor's Office and others to develop a funding mechanism that allows for this expansion without taking funds from existing programs. Unfortunately, this has proven to be challenging.

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supports the efforts of our EOPS colleagues and the Chancellor's Office to serve this vulnerable population. Please ensure that our colleges can continue to provide all

Community College Budget Proposal CAFYES Expansion
Page Two
April 10, 2018

Californians the opportunity to pursue and succeed in higher education by supporting this critical program with the additional funding necessary to expand and serve more of our foster youth.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Bruno", is placed over a light gray rectangular background.

Julie Bruno
President
Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

cc:

Hon. Kevin McCarty, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 Chair
Hon. Jay Obernolte, Assembly Budget Committee Vice Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance
Courtney Cooper, President, Student Senate for California Community Colleges
Fabio Gonzales, President, CCCEOPSA