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May 16, 2018

The Honorable Jose Medina
State Capitol
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Subject: AB 2767 (Medina, as of 04/04/18) Support

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges wishes to express our support for AB 2767 (Medina, as of April 4, 2018), which calls for the Legislative Analyst's Office to conduct a study of the funding formula used by the California Community Colleges for the 2017–18 fiscal year, submit a report to the Legislature containing its findings from the study, and provide recommendations as to various funding formula models the Legislature may wish to adopt for use by the California Community Colleges.

The 2018-19 Governor's Budget for the California Community Colleges (CCC) proposes a radical change to the system's funding formula that would limit apportionment based on enrollment, provide funding in support for low-income students, and implement performance-based funding to incentivize increasing the number of certificates and degrees awarded.

The membership of the CEO Funding Formula Workgroup that advised the California Community College Chancellor's Office on development of the new funding formula, consisted of college chief executive officers and did not include faculty, yet Title 5 §53200 states "standards or policies regarding student preparation and success" and "processes for institutional planning and budget development" are "academic and professional matters," and Title 5 §53206 establishes the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges "so that the community college faculty of California may have a formal and effective procedure for participating in the formation of state policies on academic and professional matters" and "The Board of Governors recognizes the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges as the representative...before the Board of Governors and Chancellor's Office".

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges continues to oppose incentivized funding as there is little to no scholarly research that indicates performance-based funding increases student success over time, and moreover there is strong evidence that performance-based funding reduces access and opportunity for many students creating greater inequity.

The passage of AB 2767 would ensure that time and consideration were given regarding this funding formula, protecting both colleges and students from potentially disastrous consequences.

For these reasons, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supports Assembly Bill 2767 (Medina, as of April 4, 2018). Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

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Respectfully,

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

Julie Bruno
President

cc:
Jeanice Warden-Washington, Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Higher Education
Monica Henestroza, Office of Speaker Rendon

