



April 5, 2018

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair
Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Serving the Communities of
Compton, Lynwood, Paramount and
Willowbrook, as well as portions of
Athens, Bellflower, Carson, Downey,
Dominguez, Lakewood, Long Beach,
and South Gate

The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
State Capitol, Room 3086
Sacramento, CA 95814

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RE: Support for Governor Brown's Proposed Online Community College

Dear Senators Mitchell and Portantino:

NICOLE J. JONES
President

SONIA LOPEZ
Vice-President

LOWANDA GREEN
Clerk

DEBORAH LEBLANC
Member

ANDRES RAMOS
Member

**JOSHUA CASTELLANOS
RAMOS**
Student Trustee

KEITH CURRY, Ed.D.
President/CEO

I am writing on behalf of Compton Community College District to express our support for efforts to advance higher education for working adults in California who do not have a college degree. This need was identified by Governor Brown in his 2018-2019 budget proposal for creating an online community college.

We believe the online community college should be designed as a different alternative to current online efforts so that it complements rather than competes with existing community college programs. The suggestion that it focus on assessing students' competencies and prior learning would provide a highly desirable option for adult learners that could be implemented statewide after a successful pilot.

With the sixth largest economy in the world, it is imperative that California invest in educating and training more adults to meet the increasing demand for a skilled workforce and fuel our growing economy. Our success depends on the workforce of tomorrow, and the online community college proposal puts California on a path toward greater prosperity. Taking a new approach to meeting the needs of the 2.5 million working adults who don't have a college degree would expand access to quality higher education for these underserved students while providing the flexibility, affordability and support they need to advance their employment and stay relevant in their jobs and careers.

We encourage you to embrace the online community college, and thank you for your support of public higher education in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KC', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Keith Curry
President/CEO

c.

The Honorable Hannah Beth Jackson, Member
State Capitol, Room 2032
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Moorlach
State Capitol, Room 2048
Sacramento, CA 95814

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