

April 18, 2018

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair

Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair

Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
State Capitol, Room 3086
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Senators Mitchell and Portantino,

I am writing in personal **support of Governor Brown's 115th community college** – a fully online campus that will deliver skills and industry-valued credentials that millions of working adults need to advance their careers and improve their economic future. While our board and organization must remain neutral, **I personally support this initiative and urge you to enact this historic proposal.**

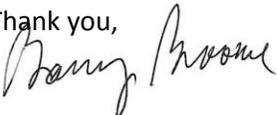
It is troubling that more than **2.5 million working Californians aged 25 to 34** – of whom 49 percent are Latino, 31 percent white, 9 percent Asian and 7 percent African American – currently **cannot access the educational pathways needed for economic mobility.** Many are primary household wage earners, work full-time jobs, care for family, and are unable to attend classes at a brick and mortar campus during a traditional academic year.

The 115th community college is unlike anything in California and will address this need by providing a **flexible and affordable learning option** for workers to earn short-term certificates and credentials needed for higher wages and job promotion.

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 **this proposal puts California on a path toward greater prosperity.**

I encourage you to embrace the 115th community college so that more workers in your districts can access the opportunity to improve their economic futures.

To learn more and read quotes from California leaders, visit the online community college website at www.ccconlinecollege.org.

Thank you,


Barry Broome
Greater Sacramento Economic Council

CC:

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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