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April 6, 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,

We are writing in **support of Governor Brown's 115<sup>th</sup> 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. **Our organization fully supports this initiative and urges you to enact this historic proposal.**

We find it 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 115<sup>th</sup> community college is unlike anything in California and will address an urgent, unmet 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.**

We encourage you to embrace the 115<sup>th</sup> 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.cconlinecollege.org](http://www.cconlinecollege.org).

Thank you,

Cynthia Murray  
President & CEO



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

**Karen Y. Zamarripa**

Karen Zamarripa Consulting  
1017 L Street, #522  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[kyszamarripa@gmail.com](mailto:kyszamarripa@gmail.com)

**Maggie Bonecutter**

FCM Education  
[maggie@fcmeducation.org](mailto:maggie@fcmeducation.org)