



President

David Morse
Long Beach City College

Vice President

Julie Bruno
Sierra College

Secretary

John Stanskas
San Bernardino Valley College

Treasurer

Wheeler North
San Diego Miramar College

Area A Representative

Grant Goold
American River College

Area B Representative

Dolores Davison
Foothill College

Area C Representative

John Freitas
Los Angeles City College

Area D Representative

Craig Rutan
Santiago Canyon College

North Representative

Cleavon Smith
Berkeley City College

North Representative

Vacant

South Representative

Adrienne Foster
West Los Angeles College

South Representative

Cynthia Rico
San Diego Mesa College

Representative at Large

Cheryl Aschenbach
Lassen College

Representative at Large

Randy Beach
Southwestern College

Julie Adams, Ph. D.

Executive Director

May 4, 2016

Mr. Chris Ferguson
Department of Finance
915 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: 916-323-9530

Re: Budget Trailer Bill Language Regarding Strong Workforce Program

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges is writing to express our concerns regarding the allocation of funding for the Strong Workforce Program in the 2016 Budget Trailer Bill. Section 308 of the Trailer Bill as written would direct funding through a fiscal agent chosen by each regional collaborative.

The recommendations of the 2015 Board of Governors Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation, and a Strong Economy demonstrate a recognition of the important role of career technical education (CTE) programs in supporting the overall economic integrity of the State of California. Recent practice has been to direct funding for CTE programs through regional consortia or collaboratives. This practice has in many cases led to uneven allocation of resources, inability to sufficiently fund some existing CTE programs, and missed opportunities for program development and improvement.

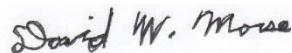
The 2016 California Budget Trailer Bill currently allocates \$200 million of ongoing Prop 98 funding to support CTE programs and workforce development through the Strong Workforce Program, and this infusion of funding for CTE and workforce programs is very much appreciated by the faculty in the community college system. However, the Trailer Bill language again directs this funding to be allocated through regional collaboratives. Such a method of allocation will impede the ability of colleges to serve their local communities and, based on past experience, will channel the funding toward newly developed programs instead of providing the badly needed support for existing programs that serve far more students.

Mr. Chris Ferguson
May 4, 2016
Page 2

Whatever the final amount of funding for the Strong Workforce Program may be, it could be better used to serve the students and the economy of California if it were allocated directly to community college districts rather than regional consortia.

For these reasons, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges urges that, to the greatest degree possible, the funding for the Strong Workforce Program be allocated directly to districts rather than to regional collaboratives. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



David Morse
President
Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

pc: Lark Park, Governor's Office
Judy Heiman, Legislative Analyst's Office
Mario Rodriguez, CCC Chancellor's Office
Vince Stewart, CCC Chancellor's Office
Mark Leno, Chair, Senate Budget Committee
Phil Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Members, Senate Budget Subcommittee 1 on Education
Members, Assembly Budget Committee
Larry Galizio, Community College League of California