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May 6, 2019

The Honorable Ben Allen
State Capitol, Room 4026
Sacramento, CA. 95814

Subject: SB 3 (Allen, as of 1 May 2019) Postsecondary Education: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability
Position: Support

Dear Senator Allen:

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges is writing to express our support for SB 3 (Allen, as of 1 May 2019), which would “establish the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability as the statewide postsecondary education coordination and planning entity,” as well as our gratitude for the amendments added to the bill in March and April.

The Academic Senate would welcome a replacement for the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), which performed a significant role in providing data and coordination for higher education in California. CPEC was an asset to the state and has been missed since it was defunded by the governor in 2011.

SB 3 would create the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability, which would, among other functions, “review and make recommendations, as necessary, regarding cross-segmental and interagency initiatives and programs in areas that may include, but are not necessarily limited to, efficiencies in instructional delivery, financial aid, transfer, and workforce coordination” and “act as a clearinghouse for postsecondary education information and as a primary source of information for the Legislature, the Governor, and other agencies.” This bill potentially provides the support for California higher education that has been needed since the defunding of CPEC. For this reason, the Academic Senate supports the concept and intent behind this bill.

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges’ gratitude regarding the changes made to the bill comes due to the amendment to allow for the inclusion of a faculty representative from each of the three segments of public higher education, who will be chosen by the governor from a list compiled by the segments’ respective academic senates. The ASCCC had taken a position of support if amended to include a faculty representative from each of the segments and appointed by the respective academic senates; this position represents the collective judgment of the 60,000 faculty in the California Community Colleges system as expressed at our organization’s 2019 Spring Plenary Session through Resolution [6.02](#) SP19 (<https://asccc.org/resolutions/provisionally-support-sb-3-allen-february-25-2019>). With the amendments promulgated by your office, the Academic Senate can take a full support position.

For these reasons, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges expresses its support for Senate Bill 3 (Allen, as of 1 May 2019), and its gratitude to the author for his willingness to include faculty on the advisory board. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

May 6, 2019

SB 3 (Allen, as of 1 May 2019) Postsecondary Education: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability Position: Support

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Stankas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Stankas, President

Cc: Hon. Connie Leyva, Chair, and the Senate Education Committee

Olgalilia Ramirez, Consultant, Senate Education Committee

Mónica Henestroza, Office of Speaker Rendon

Hon. Jose Medina, Chair, and the Assembly Committee on Higher Education

Hon. Steven Choi, Assembly Committee on Higher Education, Vice Chair

Hon. Evan Low

Jeanice Warden-Washington, Principal Consultant, Committee on Higher Education

Lizette Navarette, Community College League of California

Evan Hawkins, FACCC

Laura Metune, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations for the California Community Colleges

