

## BUDGET BRIEFING



## TALKING POINTS

- ☑ We acknowledge that the governor's hands are tied by a dysfunctional budget system in Sacramento, and support the ballot measure package that would ease the crisis. **However, these proposed cuts are devastating to California's economic recovery.**
- ☑ Whether or not the ballot measures pass, California's community colleges are facing a historic downsizing by this budget. The budget would remove funding for between 140,000 and 175,000 full-time students on top of the 50,000 currently being served without funding. **That's the equivalent of shutting down both the Los Angeles Community College District and the Los Rios Community College District in Sacramento.**
- ☑ As California's unemployment rate is projected to continue to rise, four-year universities continue to turn away students and veterans return from abroad, enrollment demand at community colleges continues to increase, but the doors simply will not be open.
- ☑ The budget proposes significant federal stimulus money for K-12 schools, the University of California and California State University. However, **no federal funds appear to be proposed for California's community colleges**, which are key to our economic recovery.
- ☑ The proposed cuts of **\$221-334 million to categorical programs** would undercut access for key programs for poor and disabled students.
- ☑ Community colleges have been belt-tightening for years. Community colleges receive one-half what the California State University receives per student and one-third what the University of California receives. This budget appears to **provides significantly larger cut to community colleges than other education entities.**
- ☑ The proposed **\$200 million cut in the last 45 days of the fiscal year is unreasonable** and will shift major borrowing costs on community college districts, and may lead to some districts being forced to skip payments to local small businesses.