Date

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Governor of California

State Capitol, Suite 1173

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 288 (Holden): College and Career Access Pathways**

**Position: REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the Organization, I write to request your signature on AB 288 (Holden): the College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) Act. AB 288 is the vehicle for important concurrent enrollment policy changes that will make it possible for students from all backgrounds to have early access to college preparation which will prevent them from needing remedial courses in college while also increasing their persistence and completion in college.

Concurrent enrollment has been singled out as having significant positive effects on increasing the numbers of students from underrepresented and low-socioeconomic backgrounds who receive either a BA or an AA degree. AB 288 reforms concurrent enrollment by removing the statutory barriers that limit many students’ access to the program. A 2012 report by the Community College Research Center found that “the participating students — those facing serious barriers to education and advancement — had better high school and college outcomes than comparison students”[[1]](#footnote-1).

*(Paragraph highlighting concurrent enrollment partnership your college would like to implement, take to scale, or how the college plans to partner with school districts.)*

As a state, California is grappling with the escalating cost of higher education, due in large part to growing remediation levels and prolonged time-to-degree. Concurrent enrollment has proven effective in mediating the need for developmental education courses, which can facilitate a student’s completion of a degree or certificate. In turn, reducing remediation through the use of concurrent enrollment can provide significant cost savings for the California State University and the University of California, and decrease the time-to-degree or transfer for community college students.

Research has also shown that concurrent enrollment decreases a student’s time-to-degree. Specifically, a national study found that students who earned college credits in concurrent enrollment programs completed their degrees in 4.25 years compared to 4.65 years for students with no previous credit.[[2]](#footnote-2) By compressing the time to a degree through concurrent enrollment, we can provide significant cost savings to the State.

AB 288 reduces current fiscal penalties and policy barriers that discourage the development of concurrent enrollment partnerships between high schools and community colleges. AB 288 would save community college students and the State of California time, money, and scarce educational resources. Organization Name appreciates your consideration of our request for your signature on AB 288.

Sincerely,

Signature

Title

Organization

cc:

The Honorable Christopher Holden

Lark Park, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor

1. Broadening the Benefits of Dual Enrollment (Community College Research Center [CCRC], Columbia University Teachers College, 2012) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Adelman, N., Keating, K., Young, V., Cassidy, L., and Bosetti, K. (2008). Bridging the Divide: Policies That Affect Acceleration of Secondary and Postsecondary Education Programs. Washington, DC:International and Jobs for the Future.  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)