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SB 1050 (De León) College Readiness Proposal
“What Others Are Saying”

Leo Liu, San Gabriel High School Student: “I believe that with increased access to resources such as test prep and essay writing workshops, low-income students will be better prepared to apply to colleges. Education is a privilege that should not be deterred by socioeconomic factors, and SB 1050 will help many realize their dreams of going to college.”

Trista Rios, San Gabriel High School Student: “Attending college is a privilege that should be open to all students. I believe that everyone deserves an opportunity to discover their own path to higher education. Approving this bill will provide students from all backgrounds the resources to navigate the collegiate world.”

Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez, O.D. (D-West Covina): “For me, what is most important is that every California resident has access to a quality education and that students who are at an economic disadvantage get the assistance they need.”

Dr. Richard Pan, Pediatrician and Senator (D-Sacramento): We are committed to give every qualified student the opportunity to obtain a UC education. Senate Bill 1050 will increase the number of admissions at our UCs for all California students, including Asian Pacific Islander students, and provide high schools in low-income areas with additional resources so their students can earn a UC education.”

Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens): “We are at a disadvantage when our students lack adequate preparation to be college and career ready. This legislation will ensure that our most vulnerable students get the support and resources they need to attend college, graduate and contribute their skills to growing our state's workforce.”

Senator Isadore Hall, III (D – South Bay), Chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus: “A college education is a ladder to success. Yet, too many high schools don't offer the coursework and counseling services necessary to help more California students find a pathway to college. Our students and our future economy deserve better. California's K-12 public schools must provide the necessary resources so that all students can succeed.”

Assemblymember Das Williams (D-Carpinteria), Chair of the Asian Pacific-Islander Legislative Caucus: “California's public higher education system is a beacon of opportunity for California students, and we are continuing to work and reinvest in it after the Great Recession. The improvements we have made won't have the desired impact if high school students aren't given a clear roadmap to reach the UC, CSU or CA Community Colleges. SB 1050 works to do just that.”

Assemblymember Luis Alejo (D-Salinas), Chair of the Latino Legislative Caucus: “The

University of California and California State University systems were established to provide a quality higher education for the children of California families. The opportunity to obtain an education at these two world class university systems has become increasingly out of reach for low-income and minority students. It is our responsibility to ensure that all California students have this opportunity, regardless of their family's income status."

Assemblymember David Chiu (D – San Francisco): "Today, college degrees are more expensive and at the same time are harder to earn. In the face of adversity, California is once again a 'do-something' state. By providing the opportunity for more qualified California students to access college, we are investing in our state's economic success in the future."

Mike Eng, former Assemblyman and current LA Community College Trustee: "The College Readiness bill (SB1050) authored by Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León will make sure that low income students, especially from immigrant communities and also foster youth, will increase their admission to the University of California (UC) by better preparing these students to enter and succeed in college. Preparing more California students to graduate from our state's public higher education system is critical to the economic future and well-being of California."

Jay Chen, Mt. San Antonio College Board Trustee: "There is a great divide between schools with great resources and schools with few, and students should not be set back for attending a school or living in a community that does not offer them the same opportunities to succeed as other students. I support SB1050 because it increases the number of admissions slots for California residents, and it encourages greater enrollment of students who attend LCFF+ schools, regardless of their race or ethnicity."

Linda S. Wah, Pasadena Area Community College District Board of Trustees President: "SB 1050 raises the boats for all students and communities who need assistance for college readiness opportunities. It unifies our communities in common cause for educational success."

Jason Pu, City of San Gabriel Councilmember: "We're here today to support SB 1050 which will help our K-12 students get ready for college and increase the number of student spots within the UC system. This bill will provide California students with greater equality of access and opportunity to higher education and will increase the participation of students from immigrant, lower income and foster homes within the UC system."

Henry Lo, Boardmember, Garvey Elementary School District: "As a school boardmember who represents a majority Asian-Pacific Islander American student enrolled school district, I believe this legislation is important because it is about expanding resources to where it is needed most to ensure all of our students are ready to attend college. The majority of my students are either first generation Californians or will be the first in their families to attend higher education. Our parents look to our public schools as modern day Ellis Islands for their children to reach the American Dream. I support this bill because it attempts to ensure more students are qualified to be admitted to UC so everyone competes on the same academic level. I applaud California and its legislative leaders for their commitment to helping our schools first with the LCFF and now this latest proposal."

Michelle King, Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent: "I am thrilled to be here in support of SB 1050, a bill that will strengthen the college readiness pipeline and ensure all students have an opportunity to attend California's top public universities."

Dr. Dale Marsden, San Bernardino City Unified School District Superintendent: “SB 1050 will give disadvantaged students an opportunity to become eligible and competitive with other California students to attend the UC and CSU system. It is a step in the right direction.”

Michele Siqueiros, Campaign for College Opportunity President: “Senator De León understands the value of investing in our state’s bright young students who are eager to learn and everyday are defying the odds by wanting to become the first in their families to go to college. But their future is contingent on our resolve to make sure they have the preparation for college and a secured spot in our state’s universities regardless of where they live or their economic status. We are proud to stand by Senate pro Tempore De León in support of all our students and this critical down payment on California’s future.”

Stewart Kwoh, Founding President and Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice – LA: “California’s future depends on reinvesting in public education and ensuring that every California student has equal opportunity to attend and graduate from the state’s world class public universities. SB 1050 “expands the pie” of educational opportunity by expanding University of California (UC) enrollment slots so that more California students of *all* backgrounds can attend the UC. The legislation also creates a pipeline of educational opportunity and success from K-12 through graduation from the UC.”

Khydeeja Alam Javid, Advancement Project: “Advancement Project is pleased to support SB 1050. The ultimate goal of LCFF is to give our neediest children a little boost to be successful in their education and later life, and this bill gives them an opportunity to do just that. SB 1050 takes the LCFF promise one step further and makes higher education more accessible. We are grateful for Senate President Pro Tem's leadership on the issue, and look forward to working with him and others to get this across the finish line.”

Professor Jose Zapata Calderon, President of the Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley and Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Chicano/a and Latino/a Studies at Pitzer College: “SB 1050 is one more needed step in creating an open door for low-income and immigrant students in our higher education system. It is one more pathway for resources at the high school level to advance pipelines of support and admission at the college and university level. Our investment in our students and their quality of education now will pay off in the workforce and leadership that is needed for advancing a good quality of life for all in the future.”

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