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April 16, 2015

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell Assembly Education Committee, Chair 1020 N Street, Room 159 Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: AB 288 (Holden, as of 3/23/15)** 

**Position: Support** 

Dear Assemblymember O'Donnell:

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges wishes to express our support for AB 288 (Holden, as of March 23, 2015), which would authorize the governing board of a community college district to develop and enter into a partnership with the governing board of a school district to establish seamless pathways from high school to community college for career technical education or preparation for transfer.

AB 288 seeks to address commonly recognized barriers to the local implementation of dual enrollment and to expand opportunities for dual enrollment. The bill requires that agreements created between colleges and school districts under the provisions of this legislation be approved at public meetings of the college and school district boards. AB 288 would therefore allow these districts to establish seamless pathways from high school to community college for struggling and at-risk high school students while still providing flexibility and local control that would allow the districts to best serve their local populations.

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supports programs and projects that improve student transitions from high school to community college where students receive rigorous comparable academic experiences and has indicated this support through various resolutions adopted by the organization's voting delegates. We are conscious that the development and ongoing implementation of dual enrollment will not succeed without faculty championing the development of policies for dual enrollment agreements and the implementation of such agreements at the local, regional, and state levels. Because we believe that dual enrollment can provide significant benefits for students, we willingly endorse faculty involvement in these partnerships.

For these reasons, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supports Assembly Bill 288 (Holden, as of March 23, 2015). Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

David W. Morse

President, Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

pc: Assemblymember Chris Holden

W. Morse

Members, Assembly Education Committee