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April 3, 2023

The Honorable Mike Fong
Chair, Assembly Committee on Higher Education
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 5230
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 680 (Rubio) Public postsecondary education: nonresident tuition: exemption. — SUPPORT

Dear Chair Fong,

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges is pleased to **SUPPORT** Assembly Bill 680 (as of April 3, 2023), which would expand college attainment opportunities for more undocumented students. Over the last two decades, California has ushered in historic policies that have enabled eligible undocumented students to attend college and afford tuition, but existing law requiring immigrants to complete three years at a California community college before being eligible for exemption from paying nonresident tuition at a California community college or the California State University potentially delays transfer and increases the cost of students' education. We urge your support of AB 680 (Rubio).

AB 680 (Rubio) aims to provide alternatives to completion of three years of full-time attendance at a California community college. These alternatives, either completion of 60 semester/90 quarter units at a California community college or attainment of an associate degree for transfer, are consistent with the two-year program pathway full-time students are encouraged to follow in preparation for transfer. With the alternatives for nonresident tuition exemption proposed in AB 680, more undocumented community college adult students will be able to afford to transfer to the California State University system sooner. This bill will not only help more students, but will in turn help our local and state economies by creating more degree earners. We thank you for your leadership on this vitally important issue and respectfully request for your support on this measure.

Sincerely,

Virginia "Ginni" May
President

Cc: Assemblymember Blanca Rubio
Jeanice Warden-Washington, Chief Consultant, California State Assembly
Ellen Cesaretti-Monroy - Senior Consultant, California State Assembly