## COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA



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September 7, 2018

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Governor of California State Capitol, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 3101 (Carrillo) – Community College Application Accessibility Act Position: SUPPORT – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the Community College League of California, I am writing to express our support for AB 3101, which would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (CCC) to revise the lengthy and complicated CCCApply application. This application is a required first step to attend community college, and needs to be accessible for all applicants, regardless of their educational background.

AB 3101 pursues important and much-needed modifications to the current CCCApply application, which is difficult to complete for many incoming students. This is especially true for many first-generation students who often cannot rely on the help of their families due to language barriers, lack of experience, and limited access to technology.

Analysis by the Chancellor's Office for California Community Colleges has indicated that students spend over an hour completing the application for admissions to community college. League review of the application found that many questions are repetitive and could potentially be addressed once the student is enrolled in a college. Further, an estimate 5% of students abandon their enrollment efforts as a result of the lengthy application. This application, as well intended as it may be, has created an unnecessary barrier to education and often prevents individuals from beginning their educational journey. At some colleges, application abandonment rates are as high as 7% to 11%. We believe it's time to streamline the application and eliminate the barrier to college it has created.

The bill will incur minor and absorbable costs to the state. Further, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office has also determined that, with development work complete, its costs would be minor and absorbable.

AB 3101 will guarantee that the Board of Governors starts the process of simplifying and shortening the CCCApply application and ensure potential students are not discouraged from enrolling in college. The League appreciates your thoughtful consideration of our support for AB 3101 (Carrillo). If you have any questions or would like to discuss the League's support of AB 3101, please contact me at (916) 245-5040 or lizette@ccleague.org.

Sincerely

Lizette Navarette Vice President

Community College League of California

cc:

The Honorable Wendy Carrillo

Lark Park, Senior Advisor for Policy, Office of the Governor