



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

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Senator Leno Joins San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee and Community College Leaders to Introduce Legislation Preserving Critical Funding for City College of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO - Senator Mark Leno today joined San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee, community college leaders, and City College of San Francisco officials to introduce legislation that provides critical funding for the college as it continues to make progress toward maintaining accreditation.

"City College is a vitally important public institution and resource for students and adults living in our San Francisco Bay Area communities," said Senator Leno, D-San Francisco. "This legislation strengthens the college's fiscal stability and ensures that it has a predictable funding level in the next few years as it works to maintain accreditation."

SB 965 provides the City College of San Francisco with stable funding during the next four years in order to protect the college from the potentially devastating impacts of declining enrollment and related drops in state support as it faces accreditation challenges. While the college is currently open and accredited, and is making significant progress to fully meet accreditation standards, it has suffered a 16 percent enrollment drop in the past year, which could result in the loss of future funding from the state.

"City College is an irreplaceable and valued institution that must remain open for the thousands of San Francisco residents who rely on it to access educational opportunities, workforce training and the skills they will need to compete and succeed in the 21st Century economy," said Mayor Ed Lee. "Our City College is on a much-needed path of reform, and this legislation authored by Senator Leno will help stabilize City College's funding as we continue to work together to maintain its accreditation."

Current law ties a community college's revenue level for each fiscal year to the amount of full-time students served. During times of declining enrollment, existing law provides for only a single year of stabilization funding, leaving few options to aid struggling districts beyond that 12-month period. SB 965 extends that stabilization period for City College of San Francisco four more years and establishes funding levels based on monies the district received in the fiscal year 2013-14.

The bill is sponsored by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

"Without this legislation there is a very real threat that declining state support caused by falling enrollment will do lasting damage to City College's ability to serve San Francisco," said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris. "This is a critical investment in a college that has made great improvements recently in areas of leadership and management."

"Funding stability is essential to ensuring the CCSF has the resources to recover and implement all of the solutions needed to maintain its accreditation," said City College Chancellor Dr. Arthur Q. Tyler.

"City College is one of the Bay Area's key providers of higher education and skilled workers, and is for many students the only point of access to a college degree or certificate," said Fred Teti, a City College of San Francisco mathematics instructor and President of the Academic Senate. "This effort will help make sure the college's important and quality instruction from world class, student-focused instructors continues long into the future."

SB 965 was officially introduced on Friday, February 7. The bill will be heard in Senate policy committees this spring.

The [California Community Colleges](#) is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

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Note to Editors: Supplemental Information is available –

[FACT SHEET: SB 965 \(Leno\)](#)

Funding Stability for City College of San Francisco
Introduced 2/10/14