September 12, 2014

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

RE: AB 1476 (Committee on Budget) Budget Act of 2014

REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, I respectfully urge you to sign Assembly Bill 1476 by the Assembly Committee on Budget. This bill includes technical changes and revisions to the 2014 Budget Act, including funding augmentations for the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU).

In 2011, the California community colleges began a historic process to improve student outcomes through the Student Success Task Force. The work of the task force resulted in 22 specific policy changes to enable our students to achieve their educational goals more effectively and efficiently; whether they choose to pursue an associate’s degree, a professional certificate or credential, or transfer to a four-year institution. Through our innovative transfer initiative with the CSU, the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT), we have created a clearer and more streamlined transfer pathway that guarantees admission to a CSU with the minimum number of units for entry to the university at the junior level. As more and more of our students pursue the ADT, we need the CSU, as well as the UC, to have sufficient openings available so they can accommodate the community college transfer students coming their way. During the economic downturn and recession budget reductions dramatically reduced the number of spaces available for community college students, the funds provided in AB 1476 (Committee on Budget) are essential to bringing these openings back for our students.

The Board of Governors and the Chancellor’s Office thanks you for your consideration and urges you to sign this measure. If you or your staff has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 445-4434.

Sincerely,

Brice W. Harris

cc: Assembly Committee on Budget