September 2, 2014

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

RE: AB 2000 (Gomez) Public Postsecondary Education: Exemption from Nonresident Tuition

REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Chancellor’s Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2000 by Assembly Member Jimmy Gomez and we urge your signature on this measure. This legislation would provide an alternative pathway for California students to meet the eligibility requirements to qualify for resident tuition and fees at California’s institutions of public higher education.

Under current law, students who attend a California high school for three or more years, graduate with a high school diploma and meet the other criteria of AB 540 (Firebaugh, Chapter 814, Statutes of 2001) are eligible for in state tuition and fees at California’s institutions of public higher education. AB 2000 would address the situation where a student may have participated in an accelerated learning program and graduated high school in fewer than three years but with the equivalent course work. Even though that student excelled in school, graduated and earned a high school diploma, without the provisions of AB 2000 he or she would be forced to pay higher nonresident tuition and fees.

For a small but dedicated population of California students, AB 2000 is critically important to provide an affordable pathway to higher education. 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 have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 445-4434.

Sincerely,

Brice W. Harris
Chancellor

cc: Assembly Member Jimmy Gomez