



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

MEDIA ADVISORY

May 29, 2009

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California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott Welcomes Hundreds of Supporters Planning to Testify at the Capitol Hearing on Governor Schwarzenegger's May Revision Proposal

WHO: California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott will welcome community college students, personnel and business leaders at the Chancellor's Office and then testify at the State Capitol on behalf of the system.

WHAT: Bracing for busloads of students, faculty and business leaders from across the state, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office will open its doors to community college supporters traveling to Sacramento to provide public testimony before the Joint Legislative Budget Conference Committee at a hearing on Governor Schwarzenegger's May Revision proposal.

WHEN/

WHERE:

Monday, June 1

12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (1102 Q St., Sacramento, CA 95811) - Interviews with students, personnel and business leaders from various backgrounds who will be impacted if the proposed budget cuts are enacted*

2:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. at State Capitol Room 4203 - Chancellor Scott's testimony at hearing

3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. at State Capitol Room 4203 - Public comments, including community college student testimonials

** One-on-one interviews with Chancellor Scott pertaining to the system response to the proposed budget cuts can be coordinated via Paige Marlatt Dorr*

VISUALS: California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott welcoming hundreds of students, college personnel and business leaders. Chancellor's Office staff can help coordinate interviews and photos. At 1:30 p.m. community college students and supporters will leave for the State Capitol. Some student athletes and career technical education students plan to attend the hearing in uniforms.

WHY: California's community colleges are facing a crisis. The colleges are currently confronted with unprecedented enrollment demand. With the governor's most recent May Revise budget, an additional \$825 million in proposed cuts and \$115 million in funding deferrals to the system is threatening the colleges – a cut that translates to a loss of access for more than 250,000 students statewide. Community colleges put California's unemployed back to work, which in turn generates more tax revenue for the state. The system is the largest provider of workforce training in California. No other system of higher education in the world matches the California Community Colleges capacity to change lives and produce a strong, qualified workforce.

Community college advocates want to convey the "real life" impacts of the proposed cuts. Further cutting the community college budget will set the colleges back for decades to come. Community colleges are California's largest pathway out of poverty and a good investment for the taxpayer because they provide the greatest return on investment at a time when California's economy is struggling.

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