

Resolution in Support of College & Career Access Pathways Act
Assembly Bill 288

Resolution calling upon members of the California Senate and California Assembly to approve college & career access pathways (CCAP) which rely on concurrent enrollment partnerships between school districts and community college districts, to improve and expand college opportunities for all students.

WHEREAS, The connection between a college degree and economic stability has been exhaustively documented, making college access and preparation a social and economic justice issue; and

WHEREAS, Across the United States there is a growing emphasis on school and community college collaboration to prepare students to be college and career ready; and

WHEREAS, California should do more to help schools and community colleges improve their college readiness and college enrollment rates; and

WHEREAS, Concurrent enrollment has become a viable and effective method to prepare any student – even those who may have struggled academically and who may have had no initial interest in pursuing a postsecondary degree or credential – to complete high school and enter college; and

WHEREAS, Allowing a greater and more diverse segment of high school students to take community college courses could provide benefits to both students and the state, such as, reducing high school dropouts, increasing the number of community college students who transfer and complete a degree, shortening the time to completion of educational goals, and improving the level of preparation of students to successfully complete for-credit, college level courses; and

WHEREAS, Concurrent enrollment has been known to increase high school graduation rates and improve chances of success in college; and

WHEREAS, Through concurrent enrollment partnerships, the Los Angeles Community College District could work with local school districts to create clear pathways of aligned, sequenced coursework that would allow students to easily and successfully transition to for-credit, college level coursework leading to an associate degree, transfer to the University of California or the California State University, or a career technical education (CTE) credential or certificate; and

WHEREAS, Through partnerships with local high school districts, the Los Angeles Community College District could increase the number of students that earn college credits in high schools and increase the number of students moving directly from high school to college; and

WHEREAS, To facilitate the establishment of concurrent enrollment partnerships, the state should remove fiscal penalties and policy barriers that discourage concurrent enrollment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, AB 288, the College & Career Access Pathways (CCAP) Act, reduces some of the state's key barriers around concurrent enrollment and makes it possible to expand college and career pathway opportunities for all students, thereby saving students and the state valuable time, money and scarce educational resources; and

WHEREAS, 86 percent of the last measured cohort of students entering the Los Angeles Community College District assessed below college-level math or English according to the state's Student Success Scorecard; and

- WHEREAS, AB 288 seeks to expand access to concurrent enrollment for all students particularly historically underserved students which the Los Angeles Community College District serves a disproportionate number; and
- WHEREAS, AB 288 would increase exposure to college-level classes for traditionally underserved students by addressing transportation and other access barriers in authorizing college-level work be offered on the high school campus; and
- WHEREAS, AB 288 would accelerate college-level learning and decrease remediation needs for high school students by authorizing district to increase the number of units students may enroll in and prohibit assessing fees to high school students in CCAP courses; and
- WHEREAS, AB 288 would increase access to CCAP courses by increasing the priority registration level for CCAP students while maintaining a balance of access to traditional community college students; and
- WHEREAS, AB 288 would increase transparency by requiring CCAP agreements to be adopted at open board meetings where the public can weigh in; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Los Angeles Community College District as co-sponsors of AB 288 calls on California to rethink its policies governing concurrent enrollment and establish a policy framework under which school districts and community college districts could create concurrent enrollment partnerships as a strategy to provide critical support for under-achieving students, those from groups underrepresented in higher education, those who are seeking advanced studies while in high school, and those seeking a career technical education (CTE) credential or certificate; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Los Angeles Community College District requests the members of the California State Senate and the California State Assembly to improve and expand college access for all students and pass AB 288 by Assembly Member Christopher Holden, the College & Career Access Pathways (CCAP) Act.