



California Acceleration Project

Supporting California's 114 Community Colleges
To Transform Remediation and
Increase Student Completion and Equity
www.AccelerationProject.org

September 29, 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown
Governor of the State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 705 (Irwin)—REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown,

As community college faculty, administrators, and staff, we urge you to sign AB 705 (Irwin) and ensure that ineffective remediation policies do not continue making capable students less likely to earn a college degree. We have seen first hand that traditional remediation is a barrier for students, and as part of the California Acceleration Project (CAP), we are working to address these problems in a grass-roots network of more than 1,200 practitioners at 100 of the state's community colleges.

The changes in AB705 will produce dramatic, statewide gains in student completion and equity. We know this from a growing body of national research, as well as early results from California colleges that have implemented these changes. At Cuyamaca College, for example, college math completion has increased from 10% to 67% among students formerly labeled "remedial," and students are proving that they are not nearly as underprepared as previously believed. (See recent CAP reports [*Leading the Way*](#) and [*Up to the Challenge*](#).)

Despite amazing results at early-implementer colleges, change is slow and difficult across our system, and most students remain stuck in remedial courses that reduce their chances of earning a degree and exacerbate racial inequality. It's time for system-level policy to fix what is so clearly broken.

We are disappointed to learn that our representatives in the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges have submitted a letter opposing AB705. We believe that the questions raised in their letter can be appropriately addressed during the implementation phase, rather than being used to block the law as a whole. The stakes for students are simply too high to keep doing what we've been doing.

AB705 takes to scale the best practices for placement and remediation that have been identified in state and national research. It provides common sense parameters that protect students from unnecessary and ineffective remediation, with ample room for faculty to design appropriate curricula and support.

We ask you to sign this law and help us to do what's right for students.

Respectfully yours,

139 faculty, administrators, and staff at 48 California community colleges + 2 related organizations

Christina Nunez	English Professor	Allan Hancock College
Julia Raybould-Rodgers	English Instructor	Allan Hancock College
Cynthia Diaz	Faculty Counselor	Allan Hancock College
Craig Hayward	Dean of Institutional Effectiveness	Bakersfield College
Leslie Henson	Professor of English	Butte College
Tracy Johnson	Professor of English	Butte College
Cristina Dahl	Chair of English and Journalism	Butte College
Suzanne Wakim	OER Coordinator, Honors Chair, Biology Faculty	Butte Community College
Heather Springer	English Faculty	Butte Community College
Ann Endris	Program Manager, Basic Skills and Student Outcomes Transformation Program	Cabrillo
Dr. Adela Najarro	Instructor	Cabrillo College
David Sheftman	English Faculty, Tenured	Cabrillo College
Cheryl	Chaffin	Cabrillo College
Mina Dadgar	Director of Research	Career Ladders Project
Benjamin T. Duran	Executive Director	Central Valley Higher Education Consortium
Niki Lovejoy-Robold	Assistant Professor of English	Cerritos College
Erin Cole	English Faculty	Cerritos College
Janet Mitchell-Lambert	English Instructor	Cerritos College
Stephen P. Clifford	Professor of English and Co-Chair	Cerritos College
Lynn Serwin	English Professor	Cerritos College
Mark Olague	Full Time Instructor	Cerritos College
Christine Granillo	Associate Professor of English	Cerritos College, Irvine Valley College
Katie Hern	English Instructor	Chabot College
Steven Hal Huntsman	Professor	City College of San Francisco
Sue Homer	Instructor	City College of San Francisco
Mitra Sapienza	English Faculty, Accelerated Learning coordinator, Equity coordinator	City College of San Francisco

Steven Mayers	Professor of English	City College of San Francisco
Kathy Kubo	Mathematics Professor	College of the Canyons
Udani Ranasinghe	Adjunct Instructor (Math)	College of the Canyons
Erik Armstrong	Professor of English	College of the Sequoias
Megan Baptista Geist	Senior Instructional Specialist/Lead Coordinator, Writing Center	College of the Sequoias
Anya Connelly	Adjunct English Professor	College of the Sequoias
Heather Hutcheson	Professor, English	Cosumnes River College
John Allen Cann	Adjunct English Professor	Cosumnes River College
Kathaleen Reed	Adjunct Faculty	Cosumnes River College
Sherri Wilson	Mathematics Department Faculty Chairperson	Crafton Hills College
Debbie Bogh	Counselor	Crafton Hills College
Kristina Barckley	Student Support Site Specialist	Cuesta College
Scott Herrin	Professor, Health Education	Cuyamaca College
Mary Touchet	Math Instructor	Cuyamaca College
Guillermo Colls	Assistant Professor of English as a Second Language	Cuyamaca College
Tammi Marshall	Chair, Math Department	Cuyamaca College
Kerry Kilber Rebman	Dean, Learning & Technology Resources	Cuyamaca College
Marvelyn Bucky	English Professor	Cuyamaca College
Kristin McGregor	Instructor	Cuyamaca College
Rachel Krajewski	Math Teacher	Cuyamaca College
Mary Donan	Adjunct Faculty	Cuyamaca College
Pat Setzer	Vice President of Instruction	Cuyamaca College
Kathryn Nette	Professor, Biology	Cuyamaca College
Karen Marrujo	Adjunct Instructor	Cuyamaca College
Cynthia Luna	English Instructor	Cuyamaca College
Debra Hills	Adjunct Professor	Cuyamaca College
Lauren Halsted Burroughs	Professor	Cuyamaca College`
Annalinda Arroyo	Math Professor	Cuyamaca College and Southwestern College
Lyn Neylon-Craft	ESL Professor	cuyamaca.edu
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Amanda Ryan Romo	Learning Center Director	East Los Angeles College
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Susan Taylor	Professor of Mathematics	El Camino College
Susan L. Bickford	Professor of Mathematics	El Camino College
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ali sharghi	ESL Instructor	English as Second Language
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Heather Walker	Faculty	Fresno City College
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Cindi Harris	Associate Professor of English	Grossmont College
Deirdre M. Rowley	Professor of English	Imperial Valley College
Summer Serpas	Professor of English	Irvine Valley College
Kurt Meyer	Professor of English	Irvine Valley College
Rebecca Kaminsky	Assistant Professor of English	Irvine Valley College
Rebecca Beck	ESL Professor	Irvine Valley College
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John ruys	Instructor	Las Positas College
Caitlin Howell	Part-Time English Instructor	Las Positas College
Dr. Nicole Glick	Professor of English	Long Beach City College
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Tue Rust	Mathematics Professor	Los Medanos College
Myra Snell	Professor	Los Medanos College
Adeyemi Aderinto	Adjunct Professor	Los Medanos College
Rick Estrada	Assistant Professor, Math	Los Medanos College
Shaw Matthews	Adjunct Professor	Los Medanos Community College
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David Perez	English Lecturer	Ohlone College
Vicki Curtis	Professor of ESL	Ohlone College
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Melissa Long	Professor	Porterville College
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Cheryl M Vallejo	Assistant Professor of Mathematics	San Diego Miramar College
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Savita Bhagi	Math Professor	San Joaquin Delta College

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Sharon Beynon	Professor of English	Ventura College
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