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December 7, 2016

Statement on the passing of former California State University Chancellor Charles B. Reed

The Campaign for College Opportunity mourns the loss of former California State University Chancellor Charles B. Reed. The Campaign was honored to have worked with Chancellor Reed for nearly a decade on ensuring increased college opportunity and success for students seeking an education in the CSU system.

Chancellor Reed was a steadfast champion of fixing the broken transfer system and committed the CSU to creating a transfer pipeline for students wishing to come to the CSU from the Community College system. Reed exerted tremendous leadership in support of historic student-centered transfer reform legislation (SB 1440) and would be proud that over 69,000 new Associate Degrees for Transfer have been conferred since implementation of the historic policy.

During Chancellor Reed's tenure, he led tremendous reforms to ensure that more students have access to CSU campuses and that they also graduated once admitted. The Campaign worked with Chancellor Reed on the CSU African American Initiative, an initiative designed to increase the number of black students applying to the CSU system. Chancellor Reed also launched an unprecedented Graduation Initiative which sought to improve overall graduate rates at each of the CSU's 23 campuses while simultaneously closing the achievement gap for under-represented minority students – an initiative that continues even more ambitiously today thanks to him.

“Chancellor Reed was a tremendous visionary and leader in public higher education in California and the nation. He was a man of integrity and was never satisfied with preserving the status quo; rather, he pushed for bold reforms that were student centered to ensure California's economy remained competitive. News of Chancellor Reed's passing is a loss for the higher education community,” said Michele Siqueiros, President of the Campaign for College Opportunity.

We send our condolences to the family of Chancellor Reed and to his CSU family. Our state is better because of his service.

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The Campaign for College Opportunity is a California non-profit research and advocacy organization focused on a single mission: to ensure all Californians have an equal opportunity to attend and succeed in college in order to build a vibrant workforce, economy and democracy. For more information, visit www.CollegeCampaign.org / [Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeCampaign) or follow [@CollegeOpp](https://twitter.com/CollegeOpp).