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LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL HONORED FOR FIGHTING TO PROTECT STUDENTS' COLLEGE DREAMS DURING PANDEMIC

Sacramento, CA – The Campaign for College Opportunity recently recognized Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell with a *Distinction in Courageous Pandemic Response* for her exemplary leadership in ensuring students had emergency aid and critical supports at California colleges and universities amid a global pandemic. Supervisor Mitchell, who previously served as a state senator and as chair of the Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee, worked tirelessly to protect financial aid levels and to ensure the availability of emergency funding to community college and undocumented students during a time of tremendous uncertainty.

“Former Senator Mitchell’s fierce leadership on the state budget protected college access for thousands of students with dreams of earning a college degree. She fought particularly hard to meet the needs of Latinx and Black students who have been disproportionately harmed by the Covid-19 pandemic,” said Jessie Ryan, executive vice president of the Campaign for College Opportunity. “The continued investments our state’s leaders make in higher education will be vital to ensuring student success and economic recovery.”

Supervisor Mitchell’s *Distinction in Courageous Pandemic Response* award was presented by Andrew Nickens, Vice President of Legislative Affairs of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. She was honored on January 27th at the Campaign for College Opportunity’s second annual Legislative Dean’s List Reception, a virtual event celebrating the extraordinary work of Californian legislators and staffers for their commitment to increasing college access and success, ensuring racial equity, and prioritizing higher education. Other honorees included Secretary of State Dr. Shirley Weber, Assemblymember Philip Ting (AD-19), Assemblymember Jose Medina (AD-61), and Aleksandra Reetz, policy advisor to the California Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis. The event hosted higher education leaders and advocates, elected officials, civic leaders, and students from across the state to honor outstanding legislative leaders for their efforts.

Watch the event recording [here](#).