



July 31, 2019

The Honorable Jerry Hill
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5035
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SCA 5 (Hill)

Position: SUPPORT

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), I am writing to express our support of your Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 5.

SCA 5 will allow voters to decide whether to create a more equitable and fair supermajority voting threshold for community college and school district parcel taxes. The legislation would also require that a proposition for a local community college district parcel tax meet several conditions before being placed on the ballot for district voters, including a requirement that the governing board conduct an annual independent financial audit of parcel tax proceeds.

Parcel taxes are one of the few ways local community college districts are able to raise revenue to supplement the funds they receive, but they remain inaccessible to most communities given the high two-thirds voter threshold. Only three of the state's 72 community college districts have been able to pass a parcel tax. More than 80% of the local parcel tax measures that failed in California from 2012 to 2017 would have passed if a supermajority vote of 55% was required for approval.

SCA 5 will make a difference to local communities that want to support their community colleges. At a time when Proposition 98 growth is slowing and community colleges are facing increased fixed cost pressures, this measure can be an important tool for our community, and others, to help provide additional local resources for our colleges.

For these reasons, ACCCA supports SCA 5.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Susan K. Bray', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Susan K. Bray
Executive Director