

April 4, 2019



The Honorable Jose Medina
Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 302 (Berman)

Position: OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Medina:

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 302. This bill would require a community college campus that has parking facilities to grant overnight access to any homeless student who is enrolled in coursework, has paid any enrollment fees that have not been waived, and is in good standing with the community college for the purpose of sleeping in the student's vehicle overnight.

While we support the bill's intent of providing support to one of our most vulnerable student populations, this bill does not fix the real housing and affordability challenges that our students face. Our colleges are already launching initiatives to help homeless students and a "one size fits all" mandate does not make sense for the diverse community college system and would result in significant incurred costs and increased liability implications.

We believe that a more feasible option to help our system's homeless students is via Senate Bill 568 (Portantino). This bill, which is supported by ACCCA, would provide housing options for homeless students and would provide services to support homeless students in transitioning to stable housing and remaining enrolled in college.

ACCCA opposes AB 302 because it increases liability for districts and creates a new and costly mandate while districts are already facing tightening budgets and increased costs. For these reasons, we respectfully oppose AB 302 and urge committee members to vote "no" on this measure.

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

cc: Members, Assembly Higher Education Committee
The Honorable Marc Berman