



April 4, 2019

The Honorable Connie Leyva
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 4061
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 568 (Portantino)

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Leyva:


On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), I am writing in support of Senate Bill (SB) 568, contingent of the funds being outside of Proposition 98. This bill would establish the College-Focused Rapid Rehousing Program, which 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.

Nearly 40,000 students from 57 community colleges participated in an assessment of basic needs security for the #RealCollege Survey administered in the fall of 2016 and 2018. The report found that half (52%) of California Community College students face food insecurity and nearly 20% battle with homelessness. The survey also found that 7 in 10 respondents have experienced food insecurity, housing insecurity, or homelessness during the past year.

SB 568 would address the mounting crisis of homelessness among college students by establishing housing resources at all segments of higher education and by requiring campuses that receive funding to implement measures to maximize the financial aid received by homeless students and ensure link-age to community-based housing resources.

Consistent with ACCCA's position to support programs that help students better afford college and successfully achieve their educational goals, we strongly support SB 568 and urge the members of the Senate Education Committee to vote "aye" for this measure.

Sincerely,



Susan K. Bray
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Education Committee
The Honorable Anthony Portantino