



March 2, 2021

The Honorable Connie Leyva
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2083
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 205 (Leyva)

Position: OPPOSE

Dear Senator Leyva,

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Senate Bill (SB) 205.

SB 205 would require a certificated or classified school employee, and an academic or classified community college employee, who exhausts all available sick leave and continues to be absent from duties on account of illness or accident for an additional period of five months to receive the employee's full salary during those five months.

While we acknowledge the importance of providing school employees with sufficient leave, we believe that the extended leave stipulated in SB 205 is a decision best negotiated locally and has serious fiscal consequences for our community college districts. The bill would not only require our districts to provide an additional five months of paid leave for an employee that exhausts their available leave, but also would result in districts needing to hire long term temporary employees to fill these positions with no additional funding provided by the state.

Our districts pride themselves on being able to balance sufficient leave for our employees with being fiscally prudent, so that our colleges can provide our students with a first class education. ACCCA opposes SB 205 because it creates a new and costly mandate while districts are already facing tightening budgets and increased costs during an unprecedented time under COVID-19.

For these reasons, we respectfully oppose SB 205 and urge committee members to vote “no” on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan K. Bray', is written over a white background.

Susan K. Bray
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Education Committee