



June 5, 2026

The Honorable Sasha Renée Pérez, Chair  
Senate Education Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 6740  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1171 (Patel), as amended on June 1, 2026**

**Position: Oppose**

Dear Senator Pérez:

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), I am writing in respectful opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 1171. While the June 1, 2026, amendments substantially narrowed the measure, ACCCA remains concerned about the bill's implications for local control and state fiscal oversight. Specifically, the bill would create a continuously appropriated fund into which funds remaining after annual Part-Time Community College Faculty Health Insurance Program apportionments are deposited and made available for future program apportionments.

ACCCA appreciates Assemblymember Patel's willingness to collaborate with interest holders and the June 1, 2026, amendments. We also support efforts to improve access to health care benefits for part-time community college faculty and recognize the vital role these employees play in serving California's students. Nevertheless, we remain concerned about the bill's implications for local control and state fiscal oversight.

AB 1171 establishes legislative intent that each community college district commence negotiations regarding health insurance benefits for part-time and multi-district part-time faculty by January 1, 2030. Although this language is framed as legislative intent rather than a statutory mandate, it nevertheless establishes a clear expectation that every district pursue negotiations on a specific subject and within a specified timeframe. ACCCA believes that local control is fundamental to addressing employee compensation and benefits issues in a manner that reflects local priorities, available resources, and workforce needs. The intent language in AB 1171 could create legislative expectations regarding both the subject and timing of negotiations, potentially diminishing local discretion in addressing employee compensation and benefits issues.

AB 1171 creates a continuously appropriated fund for the Part-Time Community College Faculty Health Insurance Program. While the bill's intent is to provide stability for the program, continuous appropriations reduce annual legislative oversight and limit the state's ability to evaluate competing budget priorities through the annual budget process. The bill would effectively place these funds outside the annual budget process and reserve them for a single purpose, restricting the Legislature's and Administration's flexibility to address future fiscal challenges, budget shortfalls, or changing statewide priorities. At a time when California faces ongoing fiscal uncertainty, preserving budgetary flexibility is especially important.

Additionally, the creation of a continuously appropriated fund for a program that has historically been funded through the annual budget process establishes a precedent that could encourage similar requests in other policy areas, further eroding the Legislature's ability to evaluate priorities and allocate limited resources through the annual budget process.

For these reasons, ACCCA respectfully opposes AB 1171 and urges the Senate Education Committee to reject the measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Claudia Lourido-Habib", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Dr. Claudia Lourido-Habib  
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Education Committee  
The Honorable Dr. Darshana Patel  
Michelle McKay Underwood, Legislative Advocate, School Services of California Inc.  
Kyle Hyland, Legislative Advocate, School Services of California Inc.