



March 6, 2024

The Honorable Mike Fong
Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee
1020 N Street, Room 173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1818 (Jackson), As Introduced on January 11, 2024

Position: Oppose

Dear Assemblymember Fong:

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 1818 (Jackson), which is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

AB 1818 would require campuses of the California Community Colleges and California State University to allow overnight parking by a student attending its campus if the student uses the vehicle as housing, the student has a valid parking permit issued by the campus, and the vehicle is parked in or on a campus-owned and controlled parking lot or parking structure.

While we appreciate the bill's intent to provide support to one of our most vulnerable student populations, AB 1818 does not fix the real housing and affordability challenges that our students face. Our colleges are already launching programs to assist 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 a safer and more feasible approach is for the state to invest another round of funding into the Affordable Student Housing Construction Grant Program. While we understand that the current State Budget deficit will not allow for another investment into the program this year, we believe a more prudent approach in the short term is for the Legislature to work with the Newsom Administration on developing a statewide lease revenue bond or other statewide financing or fiscal approach to support affordable student housing projects.

ACCCA opposes AB 1818 because it is not a feasible solution for our homeless students, would increase liability for community college districts, and would create a new costly mandate while our districts are already facing tightening budgets and increased operating costs. For these reasons, we respectfully oppose AB 1818 and urge committee members to vote "no" on this measure.

Sincerely,


Susan K. Bray
Executive Director

cc: Members, Assembly Higher Education Committee
The Honorable Corey Jackson
Michelle McKay Underwood, Legislative Advocate
Kyle Hyland, Legislative Advocate