



April 15, 2026

The Honorable Esmeralda Soria  
Member, California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4110  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2301 (Soria), as Introduced on February 19, 2026**

**Position: Support**

Dear Assemblymember Soria,

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), the foremost member-supported professional organization for administrators and managers at California Community Colleges (CCC), I write to express our strong support for your Assembly Bill (AB) 2301.

AB 2301 would require the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to develop a pilot program authorizing up to ten community college districts to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Participating districts would be selected based on criteria including equitable regional access, underserved nursing areas, and community poverty, while maintaining their associate degree in nursing programs under specified enrollment caps.

Since its inception, ACCCA has supported the CCC Baccalaureate Degree Program because it provides students with an affordable and accessible pathway to earning a bachelor's degree. Many students, particularly working adults, first-generation college students, and those in underserved communities, benefit from the ability to complete their education locally and at a lower cost.

California continues to face a significant nursing shortage, with many healthcare employers increasingly requiring or preferring BSN-prepared nurses. Expanding access to BSN programs through community colleges builds on existing infrastructure, faculty expertise, and successful associate degree nursing programs, allowing the state to efficiently increase the number of qualified nurses without the need for substantial new investments.

Additionally, community colleges offer a more affordable pathway compared to the California State University and private institutions, reducing student debt and enabling graduates to enter the workforce more quickly. This is especially critical for students from historically underrepresented and low-income backgrounds, who often face the greatest barriers to advancing their education.

AB 2301 represents a strategic and equitable approach to strengthening California's healthcare workforce while expanding educational opportunity. By prioritizing underserved regions and communities, this pilot program will help ensure that the benefits of expanded BSN access are felt statewide.

For these reasons, ACCCA strongly supports AB 2301.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Claudia Lourido-Habib', is written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Claudia Lourido-Habib  
Executive Director

cc: Michelle McKay Underwood, Legislative Advocate, School Services of California Inc.  
Kyle Hyland, Legislative Advocate, School Services of California Inc.