California Legislature

May 17, 2017

The Honorable Phil Ting Chair, Assembly Budget Committee State Capitol, Room 6026 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Kevin McCarty Chair, Assembly Budget Sub 2 State Capitol, Room 2136 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: \$15.4 million Career Technical Education Funding Restoration

Dear Chairmen Ting and McCarty:

We respectfully request that you reject the Governor's proposal to shift \$15.4 million from the California Department of Education (CDE) to the Strong Workforce Program at the California Community Colleges (CCC).

Since 2005, CDE has received \$15.4 million through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the CCC Chancellor's Office as part of the \$48 million appropriated to CCC for the Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways Program, which provides funding for initiatives to coordinate CTE training across K-12, CCC, and industry. CDE has used \$9 million, out of the \$15.4 million, to supplement existing funding for partnership academies statewide. The remaining \$6.4 million is used to support the University of California (UC) Curriculum Institute to recognize CTE coursework for UC and California State University (CSU) admission, CTE instructor professional development activities and CTE Student Organizations that provide leadership activities for CTE students.

Under CDE, the California Partnership Academy Program has proven to be successful in providing school districts with the flexibility to focus on career technical programs based on their local labor market needs. In partnership with local companies, the academies provide career training to meet the specific local workforce needs. Currently, this industry-based training model creates jobs with career-ladders in areas such as business technology, health, electronics, media, agribusiness, building trades, natural resources, finance and retail trade. There are currently 340 Partnership academies funded throughout the state.

The Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee rejected the \$15.4 million funding shift from CDE to CCC on May 17th. We respectfully request that the Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 on Education Finance take the same action when considering this proposal and restore the \$15.4 million to CDE.



As you know, California is the largest agricultural producer and exporter in the United States generating almost \$50 billion a year. Restoring the \$15.4 million will allow CDE to continue to support statewide career technical education activities and programs including partnership academies and CTE student organizations such as the California Future Farmers of America (FFA) who use this funding to provide leadership development activities for students.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely, RUDY SALAS Assemblymember, 32nd District AD 12 AD35

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Honorable Members of the Assembly Budget Committee and Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

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