

California Federation of Teachers American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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AB 1199 Overwhelmingly Passes Assembly Higher Education Committee

Would stabilize colleges facing accreditation sanctions

AB 1199, aimed at stabilizing state funding for community colleges facing severe accreditation sanction, overwhelmingly passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee today.

AB 1199 will stabilize funding for community colleges that are overcoming accreditation issues and that need funding stability in order to be successful. When a college receives a severe accreditation sanction, it can lead to a decline in student enrollment and therefore state funding. It is important for a college to recover its stable fiscal foundation in order to overcome the accreditation issues and continue serving its local community. AB 1199 provides a mechanism for this recovery.

California Federation of Teachers president Joshua Pechthalt said, "AB 1199 is a key step forward in helping to stabilize funding for our community colleges. The broad support for this legislation from the education community and as demonstrated by the bipartisan committee vote shows a real commitment to solving the funding crisis that has hurt community college students across the state. AB 1199 is a common sense tool for maintaining funding levels where student enrollment has declined and helps our community colleges continue with full academic programs and rebuild enrollment. We thank Assembly Member Paul Fong for his leadership in this important effort."

The bill passed the committee with a 10-1 vote margin.