April XX, 2021

The Honorable Jose Medina The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell

Chair Chair

Assembly Higher Education Committee Assembly Education Committee

State Capitol, Room 2141 State Capitol, Room 4001

Sacramento, CA 95814 Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1491 (McCarty) – SUPPORT**

Dear Chairmen Medina and O’Donnell:

On behalf of XXXXXX, I am pleased to support AB 1491 (McCarty) related to the carryover of Adult Education funding.

The California Adult Education Program (CAEP) receives on-going funding through the state budget each year to support Adult Education in the K12 Adult School and Community College systems. Unfortunately, a significant portion of these limited CAEP dollars is carried over by individual members from year to year rather than being spent to support the significant unmet need in the budget year.

While the California Community College Chancellor’s Office has a standard protocol (*not law*) of identifying ‘carry over’ through a three-year cycle, the overall shortage of funding to serve adult education students and the imperative to address critical learning needs of so many marginalized and disadvantaged adults and their families in California warrants providing local consortia a mechanism for increased accountability of use of funds each year in the year they are allocated to the greatest extent feasible. Having any member carrying over a significant portion of the annual allocation creates tension within consortia as we struggle to meet unmet need within your community, a particularly problematic issue for your K12 Adult Schools who do not have access to separate per student apportionment.

AB 1491 would establish clear criteria, accountability and a maximum threshold (proposed at 15%) for consortia members to carryover from year to year so as to ensure the maximum amount is used to support growing student needs in the budget year. It honors local control and allows a member to work within their consortium structure to update their expenditure plan so as to avoid being deemed ineffective and potentially having their allotted funding redistributed within the consortium based on a local consortium vote.

I am pleased to support AB 1491 and urge your **AYE** vote when it is before you for consideration. If you have any questions regarding AB 1491 and our position, please contact Dawn Koepke with McHugh Koepke & Associates, legislative advocate for the California Council for Adult Education (CCAE) and California Adult Education Administrators Association (CAEAA), at dkoepke@mchughgr.com or (916) 606-5309. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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