



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 3, 2019

Via: *Electronic Submittal:* <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, Chair
Assembly Education Committee
1020 N Street, Room 159
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1303 (O'Donnell)

Position: Support

Dear Assembly Member O'Donnell:

On behalf of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education, I am writing in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 1303. This bill would increase ongoing funding for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG) from \$150 million per year to \$450 million, change the CTEIG local match requirement ratio to 1:1, and eliminate the K-12 Strong Workforce Program. This bill will be heard by the Assembly Education Committee on April 10, 2019.

AB 1303 recognizes the importance of investing in high-quality Career Technical Education (CTE) programs that equip California students with the knowledge and skills they need to compete in today's global economy. Research shows that low-income, minority students who engage in CTE programs complete high school at a higher rate than their peers who do not participate. This bill would continue to improve the retention rate among the state's most vulnerable student population while providing them the skills they need to be successful in today's workforce.

We believe robust, high-quality, accountable CTE programs make a significant contribution to California's economy by providing thousands of students with the training and skills necessary to be productive, income earning, taxpaying citizens.

For these reasons, we support AB 1303 and urge members of the Assembly Education committee to vote "aye" for this measure.

Sincerely,

Ben Drati
Superintendent

cc: Members, Assembly Education Committee

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Superintendent: Ben Drati