September 14, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 634 (Ward) Community colleges: career development and college preparation courses
Position: **Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Community College League of California, **I respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 634 by Assembly Member Chris Ward**. The bill would allow courses offered in the Managed Enrollment (ME) Career Development and College Preparation (CDCP) Courses to be eligible for state funding if those courses are offered as a complement of other courses.

A CDCP course is a noncredit course in a series of courses that leads to a certificate, college enrollment, improved employability, and job placement opportunities. Some examples of these courses include basic skills, short-term vocational, and English as a Second Language (ESL). These courses, many of which are competency-based, have been shown to provide students with the necessary skills to gain immediate employment, improve workplace wages, or transition into college-level work.

This is a critical issue, and in fact, language in the 2020-21 budget encourages community college districts to offer more noncredit courses that provide students with the opportunity to quickly move into the workforce and focus on economic recovery. Unfortunately, the funding structure for many of these programs prevents districts from quickly offering these courses and building out opportunities for increased student access.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your signature on AB 634 (Ward). If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 444-8641 or amartinez@ccleague.org.

Sincerely,

Andrew Martinez
Senior Director of Government Relations
Community College League of California

CC: Assemblymember Chris Ward