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May 27, 2022

The Honorable Senator Steven Bradford  
California State Senate – 35th District  
State Capitol, Suite 7210  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson  
California State Assembly – District 64  
State Capitol P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0064

**Re: Establishment of a New Funding “*floor*” for California Community College Districts under the Student-Centered Funding Formula**

Dear Senator Steven Bradford and Assemblymember Mike Gipson,

On behalf of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of Compton College and Compton CCD. I am writing to support the Governor’s May Revision for the 2022-2023 year regarding establishing a new funding “*floor*” for California Community College Districts under the Student-Centered Funding Formula.

As you know, Compton College and Compton CCD District enrollment challenges and Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES) Hold Harmless Provision were separate from the FTES Hold Harmless Provisions provided to California Community Colleges. The 2017-2018 California State Budget initially provided this provision and assistance for Compton College to effectively transition to an independent accredited college under the authority of Compton CCD Board of Trustees. The 2020-2021 California State Budget provided Compton CCD with an FTES Hold Harmless Provision Extension through the 2025-2026 fiscal year. As anticipated, due to the transition from the El Camino Community College District, Compton College has experienced a decline in student enrollment. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to devastate our enrollment in 2021-2022. During the past four years, Compton College has worked to transform our institution through the ongoing implementation of recommendations from the California Community Colleges *Vision for Success*.

Compton College’s enrollment data is as follows:

- 2018-2019 academic year, Compton College generated 4,494.19 FTES.
- 2019-2020 academic year, Compton College generated 4,316.81 FTES.
- 2020-2021 academic year, Compton College generated 3,304 FTES.
- 2021-2022 academic year, Compton College anticipates generating 3,118 FTES.

In previous years, I wrote you requesting support for extending the Compton CCD’s Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES) Hold Harmless Provision from 2025-2026 to 2028-2029. However, this year we are writing in support

of the proposal to establish a new funding “*floor*” for California Community College Districts under the Student-Centered Funding Formula and provide district revenue protections, which would effectively set Compton College and Compton CCD funding “*floor*” at 5,980 FTES for the 2026-2027 year. The Funding Rates under the proposed “*floor*” for Compton College and Compton CCD would include the Cost-of-Living Adjustments through the 2025- 2026 fiscal year.

Even though Compton CCD FTES Hold-Harmless Protection was extended through 2025-2026, declining enrollment is a significant concern for the district. We are currently experiencing a 30% decline in enrollment from the 2016-2017 year to the present. The enrollment decline was highlighted in the [FCMAT Fiscal Health Risk Analysis \(FHRA\)](#) report for Compton CCD on page 17. Also, the FCMAT FHRA report stated the Compton CCD FHRA score is 10.7%. The report indicates the district has a low probability of fiscal insolvency in the near future. Compton College and Compton CCD have a solid financial position that was confirmed by FCMAT. However, the FCMAT report shared concerns about the future financial outlook of the district once the FTES Hold-Harmless Protection expires.

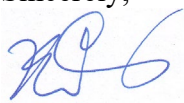
The following is a recap of the Compton CCD’s current financial situation. [Assembly Bill 318 - Community colleges: Compton Community College](#) appropriated \$30 million to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges as an emergency apportionment to finance, among other things, activities described in Article 5 of Chapter 5, Part 46 of the Education Code for Compton CCD. As of June 30, 2021, Compton CCD has an outstanding balance of \$6,792,364, including interest, for the emergency apportionment provided by the State of California. Compton CCD anticipates making the final payment to the California Department of Finance in the 2025-2026 year. Compton CCD has a [plan for payment of the emergency apportionment balance](#).

As of [June 30, 2021, Compton CCD](#) also has a net pension liability of \$45.2 million, and as of our most recent actuarial report dated September 2, 2021, our total [Other Post-Employment Benefits \(OPEB\) liability](#) is \$14 million, and the net OPEB liability of \$1 million as of June 30, 2021. Compton CCD has a [plan for our addressing our OPEB liability](#).

Your support for the Governor’s May Revision for the 2022-2023 year regarding the establishment of a new funding “*floor*” for California Community College Districts under the Student-Centered Funding Formula would significantly mitigate enrollment concerns and allow us to continue to fully implement the California Community Colleges *Vision for Success* as well as address our long-term fiscal liabilities. The request to support the new funding “*floor*” will ensure Compton College has the resources necessary to effectively serve our diverse student population as an accredited college within Compton CCD and post-COVID-19.

In conclusion, we respectfully request your support for the Governor’s May Revision for the 2022-2023 year regarding the establishment of a new funding “*floor*” for California Community College Districts under the Student-Centered Funding Formula. If you have any questions, please contact me at 310-900-1600, ext. 2000 or via email at [kcurry@compton.edu](mailto:kcurry@compton.edu).

Sincerely,



Keith Curry  
President/CEO

c. Honorable Senate President Pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins  
Honorable Senator Lena A. Gonzalez  
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Honorable Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Monica Henestroza, Principal Consultant, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Chris Ferguson, Assistant Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance  
Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges  
Lizette Navarette, Vice-Chancellor, Finance, Facilities, and Planning, California  
Community Colleges  
Compton Community College District Board of Trustees