

March 10, 2021

The Honorable Jose Medina Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee 1020 N Street, Room 173 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1269 (Garcia) **Position: CO-SPONSOR** 

Representing faculty and classified workers in public and private schools and colleges, from early childhood through higher education

SACRAMENTO OFFICE 1107 9th Street, Suite 460 Sacramento, CA 95814 916-446-2788 916-446-2401 fax www.cft.org

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

Dear Assemblymember Medina:

The California Federation of Teachers (CFT) is proud to co-sponsor Assembly Bill 1269 (Garcia) which would help create parity for part-time faculty of the California Community Colleges so that equal work results in equal pay.

Approximately 70 percent of community college courses are taught by part-time faculty, who often split their time at multiple colleges to make ends meet due to course caps. Part-time faculty are paid less than their full-time colleagues, receive fewer benefits, and even have to fight for office space on campus.

While part-time faculty are capped at 67 percent of a full-time workload, they are generally only paid for the time they spend teaching courses — not the time needed to prep, grade or help students outside of class. As a result, many part-time faculty members are exploited as a cost savings measure and are, in many if not all ways, an exploited second class in the academic world. This exploitation harms our part-time faculty, our institutions, but it damages our students far more as they have limited access to part-time faculty.

To start addressing these critical issues, AB 1269 (Garcia) would require that the Chancellor's Office collect and report part time faculty parity data from each Community College District and that the Chancellor's Office and each CCCD have the information available on their public facing website by July 1, 2022. It also creates a statewide definition of parity for parttime faculty that can be applied to the local context. Finally, AB 1269 would require that community colleges close the parity gap by 2027. These are vital first steps necessary to ensure there is parity for community college part-time faculty, equal pay for equal work, and helps in achieving better outcomes for community college students.

For these reasons, we urge an "AYE" vote on AB 1269 (Garcia) when it comes before you in Assembly Higher Education Committee.

Sincerely.

Michael A. Young Legislative Representative

MY:jc-opeiu29:afl-cio

Members, Assembly Higher Education Committee cc:

> Lyndsay Mitchell, Consultant Jeanice Warden, Chief Consultant