[LETTERHEAD]

[INSERT DATE]

The Honorable Jose Medina

Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee

1020 N Street, Room 173

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for AB 1432 – Eliminating Calbright College**

Dear Assemblymember Medina,

[Insert organization name] is pleased to express our support for Assembly Bill 1432. This legislation would eliminate the California Online Community College.

Since Calbright College opened for enrollment, the school has issued just 35 credentials to 29 students and only one of those graduates was placed in a job. The state has invested more than $140 million to start-up a new online college, but thus far, the investment has not paid off. Calbright remains unaccredited and the school has failed to reach enrollment goals and other benchmarks. In addition, the programs offered at Calbright are duplicative of offerings available through California’s existing community college system.

At a time when the state is staring down a looming economic crisis, we cannot afford to sink more money into this failed experiment, especially when existing community college districts have proven themselves more than capable of rapidly adapting programs online to serve students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rather than propping up Calbright College, the state should invest those dollars in bolstering programs at existing community colleges to reach underserved populations and working adults. San Diego Community College District did this through their Continuing Education iComAcademy, which was California’s first completely free, fully online, and fully comprehensive community college built to serve nontraditional students.

We do not need to reinvent the wheel to reach working adults with programs that will best meet their unique needs; rather we need to invest taxpayer dollars strategically in proven programs with locally accountable leadership.

For all these reasons, [insert organization name] offers our strong support for AB 1432 and urges an AYE vote.

Sincerely,