

August 11, 2016

Hon. Senator Ricardo Lara, Chair
Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: AB 1995 (Williams)/As Introduced
Position: Support as Amended

Dear Senator Lara,

On behalf of Region V of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges, we would like to highlight our official support for AB 1995 (Williams), which would require a community college campus that has shower facilities for student use to grant access, as specified, to those facilities to any homeless student who is enrolled in coursework, has paid enrollment fees, and is in good standing with the community college district.

In our Region, which consists of 13 community colleges located in the Central Valley, homelessness has become an increasing issue among our local communities and more so in our community college system. As it currently stands our local community colleges have some of the highest vulnerable and disadvantaged student populations throughout the state of California and when any student who doesn't have the proper shower access for hygiene that he or she needs, it creates a barrier to their success by discouraging them from attending class and takes away the potential of a successful college education.

If passed, AB 1995 will lift the burden off our homeless student population by allowing them to have the necessary access to shower facilities on their community college campus and end the embarrassment of not feeling clean when around other peers.

Below is the support of our regions 13 community colleges who have signed on to support this bill and would hope to have your **support** and **Aye** vote. For additional information on our stance of support, please contact me at Cheyne.Strawn@studentsenateccc.org.

Sincerely,

Cheyne Strawn, Legislative Director
Region V, Student Senate for California Community Colleges

College of the Sequoias
Bakersfield College
Modesto Junior College
Porterville College

Fresno City College
West Hills College: Coalinga
West Hills College: Lemoore
Madera Community College Center

Columbia College
San Joaquin Delta Community College
Reedley College
Clovis Community College

Merced College