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LUIS A. ALEJO
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTIETH DISTRICT

TO: Members of the California State Legislature
FROM: Assemblymember Luis A. Alejo
DATE: March 10, 2015
RE: **Co-author Request for AB 490: Extended Opportunity Programs and Services**

AB 490, which will restore funding for the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) in California's community colleges. Thirty-two million dollars will be restored for EOPS and eight million dollars for CARE. These programs were cut by 40 percent in the 2008-2009 budget year.

EOPS was created in 1969 as a civil justice program to address inequity by enabling low income, educationally disadvantaged students affected by language, social, and economic handicaps to achieve a college education. CARE was established in 1982 as a program for welfare recipients seeking job-relevant education to break the cycle of dependency.

EOPS services include, but are not limited to: grants, counseling, academic monitoring, specialized transition to transfer and employment assistance, and workshops designed to teach study skills, time-management, and money-management. In addition to the core supportive services provided by the EOPS program, CARE students may be awarded supplemental grants, services and allowances to pay for educational related expenses (such as child care, transportation, textbooks and supplies) not offered by other resources to strengthen their retention, persistence, graduation and transfer rates.

Restoring funds to these programs will provide more disadvantaged students with the ability to succeed both academically and professionally. These students will be provided with a complete set of services that will link them to academic and community resources, enabling them to overcome obstacles and achieve academic and professional success.

I would be honored to have you as a co-author. Thank you for your consideration.

Yes, I would like to be a co-author.

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE