

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Anna Mathews Advocacy Manager amathews@faccc.org (209) 244-2888

FACCC AND MESA RESPOND TO THE GOVERNOR SIGNING SB 444

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC), in collaboration with MESA CCP (Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement: Community College Programs) has issued the following statement on the Governor signing co-sponsored SB 444.

"FACCC and MESA CCP are grateful to Governor Newsom for signing SB 444 (Newman) into law. SB 444 codifies MESA CCP into California Education Code, encouraging all community college campuses to establish MESA programs. This legislative victory will provide MESA CCP with stability and security, in order to ensure the program's ability to alleviate equity and achievement gaps in STEM. It reaffirms FACCC and MESA CCP's commitment to making the California Community Colleges an inclusive space for all students to thrive and be supported in their academic endeavors.

For the last 34 years, MESA CCP has offered students academic and transfer counseling, mentorship, professional and workforce development, and opportunities for networking, internships, and research. Its program objectives and outcomes play a critical role in enhancing California's high-tech STEM workforce, while aiding California in reducing equity and achievement gaps.

SB 444 will significantly increase the capacity of MESA CCP to support and uplift diverse students in their educational and career paths. We are grateful for the Legislature and Governor's support of this critical bill."

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Representing members throughout California since 1953, the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) is a statewide professional membership association that informs, educates, empowers, and advocates for faculty in service to students.

Visit our website at www.faccc.org

Community College Association of MESA Directors (CCAMD) advocates for MESA Directors and other Community College professionals working with low-income, first-generation STEM students.