



June 27, 2014

The Honorable Das Williams
Chair Assembly Higher Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 4005
Sacramento, CA 94248-0037

RE: SUPPORT of AB 2705

Dear Assemblyman Williams,

The California Conference of the American Association of University Professors (CA-AAUP) endorses Assembly Bill 2705. The bill changes terms used by the California Education Code to describe the hard-working professional educators who now teach the majority of our community college students.

AB 2705 replaces "part-time" and "temporary" with the term "contingent faculty," which it holds is "a more accurate and useful term with which to refer to these educators, who are so integral to the successful functioning of community colleges in this state." The bill only changes terminology, but we feel that this is an important first step in addressing the inequitable two-tier professoriate that has emerged in the California community college system.

For the good of all California educators, our students, and our communities, the Steering Committee of the CA-AAUP asks you to use AB 2705 to start a conversation at your institution about the role of non-tenure track faculty. Consider AB 2705 a starting point for a larger conversation about removing the artificial distinctions that segregate contingent and non-tenure track faculty, and preclude their full participation in what AAUP calls "the life of the university."

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Irwin
Acting President / Secretary-Treasurer
3761 Harrison Street, Apt. 15
Oakland CA 94611
(510) 922-1949

Ivan Evans, Vice President for University of
California, San Diego

John Halcón, Vice President for California State
University, San Marcos

Samantha Francois, Vice President for California
Community Colleges, Diablo Valley College

Robin Balliger, Vice President for Private
Colleges and Universities, San Francisco Art
Institute

Wendy Ng, San Jose State University,
California Faculty Association North

Kimberly King, California State University, Los
Angeles, California Faculty Association South