



California Part-time Faculty Association

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June 30, 2014

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

RE: AB 2705 (Williams): SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Williams:

The California Part Time Faculty Association (CPFA) supports your bill AB 2705 (Williams). This bill will result in the re-naming of "Part Time" and "Temporary" Faculty in the Education Code that governs the California Community College System, replacing these inappropriate and inaccurate terms with "Contingent Faculty," without compromising the ability to secure unemployment benefits when faculty are not engaged in teaching either between terms or during the summer.

The process of renaming part-time, temporary faculty as "Contingent Faculty," in terms of employment classification, is empowering for non-tenure track faculty in all of the districts governed by the Education Code. Faculty members who have been teaching on a consistent basis for over 5, 10, 15 or more years are not instructors whose employment status should be defined as "temporary."

Calling part-time faculty "Contingent Faculty" is a major step in the process of respecting and acknowledging the ongoing contribution of non-tenured faculty to student success and the commitment to faculty development and governance. Being "Contingent Faculty," and not "Temporary" or "Part Time," is a step toward self-empowerment and self-identification. What we choose to call ourselves is as important as gaining recognition in our ongoing efforts to gain not only respect, but inclusion in shared governance, rights to due process and academic freedom, as well as benefits, improved office hours, parity pay and more stable working conditions.

AB 2705, is a significant first step in giving "Contingent Faculty" a name that is more reflective of our role in our students' education and in our desire to more fully participate in the life and culture of our community colleges.

We are not only pleased with your legislative initiative, but we are willing and able to support your bill in whatever ways we can! **We gratefully and strongly support AB 2705.**

Thank you again, for your efforts on our behalf.

Sincerely,

JMartin

John Martin, Chair