

January 27, 2016

Assemblymember McCarty,

On behalf of the Executive Board of the Health Services Association of California Community Colleges (HSACCC), I am writing to formalize our support of AB 1594.

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable and premature death in the United States; it is a known deadly carcinogen. The US Surgeon General has concluded there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke. Because of this, HSACCC has been supporting smoke-free campus efforts including ongoing education on the dangers of tobacco use (in its many forms), efforts to increase protection of the health of non-smokers, working to change social norms to reduce the acceptability of tobacco use, and encouraging research-based evidence for universal smoke/tobacco-free policies.

In 2011, the American College Health Association adopted a position statement supporting 100% smoke/tobacco-free college and university campuses. In 2013, HSACCC adopted a white paper on tobacco prevention and control in the California Community Colleges which supports campus-based efforts to create 100% smoke/tobacco-free campuses.

HSACCC applauds your efforts to better protect the health of students and employees on CSU and California Community College campuses. We are honored to be listed as a supporter of AB 1594.

Sincerely,

Naomi Forey, RN, MSN HSACCC President

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