



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

July 23, 2015

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
California State Senate, Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 288 (Holden) – the College and Career Access Pathways Act

Dear Chairman Lara:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 288 (Holden). This bill promotes the development of College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnerships to offer a broader range of students the opportunity to acquire core academic and career skills necessary to be successful.

Existing law places accessibility and availability restrictions on concurrent enrollment partnerships between local school districts and California community colleges. AB 288 sensibly reforms concurrent enrollment partnerships policy with the goal of developing seamless pathways from high school to community college to help students achieve their educational and career goals. Allowing districts this flexibility best serves the needs of students that improves high school graduation rates and transfer rates while saving students, and the State, time, money, and scarce educational resources.

Long Beach established a unique partnership with Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach, to help our local students earn degrees and certificates in preparation for rewarding lives and careers. The Long Beach College Promise is a critical factor in improving attainment of early educational milestones for students. Since our partnership began in 2008, LBUSD student graduation rates are increasing, remedial courses for English and Math are decreasing, and CSU Long Beach enrollment rates are rising. CCAP partnerships is one tool to support and prepare young adults for successful careers and productive lives.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support AB 288.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
562-570-6801 | Mayor@longbeach.gov | @LBMayorsOffice
333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

