

Trustee Hobbs speaks against budget cuts that impact student enrollment

Dear Governor,

As elected trustee for 14 years for the San Jose-Evergreen Community College District, and as a former program manager for Santa Clara County for 12 years, I want to express my deep dismay at catastrophic cuts proposed to the CCC system.

I know that we have worked ceaselessly to provide the opportunity that young adults and reentry students need to succeed, and that reductions of the nature being considered will disrupt families, create hellacious competition for low-wage jobs, and leave poor families without any recourse other than the use of our state's most expensive systems--emergency rooms, juvenile halls, and local jails.

Let us work on the side of prevention and opportunity, not on the side of intervention and hopelessness. Severing 250,000 community college students from their future is not only backward looking, it is a recipe for disaster!

Hon. Richard Hobbs
Trustee, San Jose-Evergreen Community College District



Dear Richard,

This morning, [we shared with the media](#) the impact of proposed budget cuts on California's community colleges. It's unfathomable, but the cuts would eliminate over a quarter of a million students. **To put it in another perspective, it's like shutting down the University of California, only targeting our state's most economically disadvantaged and diverse population.**

Meanwhile, [in a new poll](#) released today by the Public Policy Institute of California 83% of Californians express concern that the budget gap will cause significant cut spending cuts in higher education. As a hard-working advocate for California's community colleges, you'll be happy to know that the same poll gives the colleges a big "thumbs up." **A full 66% of Californians believe community colleges are doing an "excellent" or "good job,"** but that there are significant barriers to affordability and accessibility.

We are launching our advocacy effort with a press conference featuring Chancellor Diane Woodruff today at 1 p.m. at Sacramento City College, and we are going to need your help over the next several months.

Will you join me today by [sending a quick note to the governor](#) to ask him to do what he can to protect the 250,000 threatened students?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hobbs".

