Insert Date

The Honorable Anthony Portantino Chair,

Senate Appropriations Committee

State Capitol, Room 412

Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 247 (Muratsuchi) Transitional Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024.

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Portantino:

The [insert district name] writes in support of Assembly Bill 247, introduced by Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi. This bill would place a $14 billion statewide K-14 education facilities bond before the voters on the November 2024 ballot.

In 2016, voters approved the last state school bond, Proposition 51, which allocated $2 billion for community college capital outlay projects. However, the bond authority from Proposition 51 has now been depleted, leaving no more funds available to support new community college projects. According to estimates from the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office $29.9 billion in unmet capital facilities needs from 2022-23 through 2026-27 for construction and modernization.

The capital outlay program is designed to prioritize health and safety issues such as seismic retrofits and utility infrastructure upgrades. It also assists districts in constructing and renovating instructional and institutional support spaces, ensuring students have the necessary resources to achieve their educational goals.

Facilities play a crucial role in student success, providing the specialized physical space in which students receive job training and educational instruction. Additionally, facilities are essential to supporting students’ basic needs, including access to housing, food, health care, financial aid, and more.

The [Insert district name] believes that investing in facilities through AB 247 is vital for California’s future and for providing our students with a robust education. We respectfully request your support for this bill when it is heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Respectfully,

[insert signature here]