



March 12, 2026

Honorable Mike Fong, Chair
Assembly Higher Education
State Capitol, Room 126
Sacramento CA 95814

**RE: AB 1871 (Fong) Pupil Instruction: Dual Enrollment: College and
Career Access Pathways Partnerships – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Fong and Assembly Higher Education Members,

The California Catholic Conference is pleased to express its strong support for **AB 1871**, which updates the **College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) dual enrollment program** to improve access and streamline participation for high school students across California.

Current law authorizes community college districts to enter CCAP partnerships with school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools to expand dual-enrollment opportunities, particularly for students who may not already be college-bound or who are underrepresented in higher education. These partnerships require agreements that outline provisions such as information sharing, joint use of facilities, and parental consent for students enrolling in community college courses.

AB 1871 improves this framework by eliminating the requirement that students obtain a principal's recommendation to participate in a CCAP partnership. Removing this barrier simplifies the process for students and schools, making it easier for more young people to access college-level coursework while still in high school.

Dual enrollment programs provide significant benefits for students by strengthening academic preparation, increasing college readiness, and improving the likelihood of college enrollment and degree completion. Expanding access to these programs is particularly important for students from communities that have historically had fewer opportunities to participate in higher education pathways.

The California Catholic Conference advocates for policies that support student success and expand educational opportunity for all students. By streamlining participation in dual enrollment programs, **AB 1871** will help ensure that more students across California can benefit from early college experiences that prepare them for both higher education and future careers.

For these reasons, as the official public policy voice of the Catholic Church in California, we urge you to vote. "AYE" on AB 1871. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact Samara Palko, Director of Education, at 916-477-00631 or spalko@cacatholic.org.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Domingo
Executive Director

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