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The Academic Senate of Sierra College

Title: Opposition to the Performance-Based Funding Formula

Resolution Number: 2018-02 Assigned to: Governor Brown

WHEREAS, Governor Brown has proposed a new funding formula in his January budget proposal, and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding formula provides that 25% of a community college district's funding will be determined by the number of students receiving a degree or certificate, as well as the number of students receiving a degree or certificate in three years or less, and

WHEREAS, students are best served when they are able to explore and discover their career path, as well as retaining the critical skills needed for success in the workforce, which may not meet the same time frames and degree metrics set out by this proposal, and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that districts directed in this manner often reduce high cost programs, such as career technical education, or de-emphasize programs that do not tend to yield high student performance, and

WHEREAS, states which have instituted this type of performance-based funding show a decrease in the number of Associate's degrees and an increase in the number of short-term certificates, and

WHEREAS, a more effective way of quantifying student success is through increased funding of full-time faculty who provide direct access and support to students to help guide them on their career path, and

WHEREAS, augmenting the compensation, office hours funding, and health benefits of the large number of part-time faculty serving community college students has a positive impact on student success, and

WHEREAS, utilizing the 75/25 goal and increased part-time faculty benefits as metrics, the goals of this part of the funding formula can be achieved in a manner that will address the long-term skills students will need in the workforce to be successful,



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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sierra College Academic Senate opposes the Governor's proposal to base 25% of a community college district's funding on performance-based metrics, unless the metrics were to include a significant shift in additional faculty-orientated metrics that are proven to increase student success, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sierra College Academic Senate instead supports raising the percentage of the supplemental grant to provide low-income and historically underrepresented students with support.