

[Date]

The Honorable Jose Medina  
Chair of Higher Education Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Support for AB 295 (Jones-Sawyer) – Free College for California Students**

Dear Chairman Medina,

As a California [high school/college] student and someone who wishes to attend affordable college in the future, I am writing to urge you to support Assembly Bill 295 (Jones-Sawyer) when it is set for a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee. This bill is important as it would create a workgroup of higher education students, administration, faculty, and staff to develop a program for free college for California students.

Students are finding it increasingly more difficult to afford their education while also ensuring their basic needs are met. As an example, 80% of CSU students receive financial aid, while 34.4% are food insecure and 7.2% report experiencing both food insecurity and homelessness. Also, it has been found that 60% of CCC students were experiencing housing insecurity while 19% were homeless, and 52% were experiencing food insecurity. As higher education becomes less affordable, access for historically marginalized communities is significantly limited further.

[Insert your background and/or specific stories to emphasize your support of and the need for this bill]

It is common sense to have higher education experts and students develop the model to implement a free college program for California students. As a California [high school/college] student myself, I strongly urge you to set AB 295 (Jones-Sawyer) for a hearing, and I hope you will do everything you can to ensure the passage of this important, student-focused bill when it is heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

Sincerely,

[Name  
Address  
Contact Information]