

RESOLUTION NO. 26-06
SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 968 (BECKER) TO MAKE THE DISTRICT'S FREE COLLEGE PROGRAM PERMANENT

WHEREAS, in 2022, Senate Bill 893 (Becker) authorized a five-year pilot program permitting the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD) to use existing local revenues to eliminate tuition and registration fees for eligible San Mateo County residents; and

WHEREAS, the District implemented the Free College program beginning in Spring 2023; and

WHEREAS, since implementation, Free College has served more than 33,500 students and increased domestic enrollment by 24 percent — three times the statewide average; and

WHEREAS, Free College participants include a significant proportion of first-generation college students and students from historically underrepresented communities; and

WHEREAS, the program has demonstrated improved student persistence and completion outcomes, while the District has maintained fiscal stability and continued responsible investment in faculty, staff, and student services; and

WHEREAS, the Free College program is funded through existing local unrestricted revenues and does not require additional State General Fund resources; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 968 (Becker) would remove the program's sunset date and authorize the District to continue offering Free College beyond the current pilot period;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District formally expresses its strong support for Senate Bill 968; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the Chancellor or designee to communicate the District's support for SB 968 to appropriate state officials; and

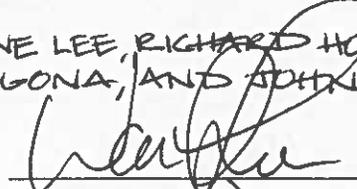
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Senator Josh Becker; Assemblymember Diane Papan; Assemblymember Marc Berman; the Governor of California; and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of February 2026 by the San Mateo County Community College District by the following vote:

Ayes: **WAYNE LEE, RICHARD HOLOBER, USA PETRIDES, MICHAEL GUINGONA, AND IDHIL PIMENTEL**

Noes:

Attest:


Wayne Lee, President
Board of Trustees


Candice E. Bell
Board Clerk