

FILE NO. 150377

1 [Supporting Assembly Bills 404 (Chiu), 1385, and 1397 (Ting) - Community Colleges and
2 Accreditation]

3 **Resolution supporting Assembly Bill 404, authored by Assembly Member David Chiu,**
4 **and Assembly Bills 1385 and 1397, authored by Assembly Member Phil Ting, to reform**
5 **rules and procedures in California’s community college accreditation process.**

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7 WHEREAS, City College of San Francisco is an essential and significant institution
8 serving San Francisco; and

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s Budget and Legislative Analyst found that City College of
10 San Francisco contributes more than \$300,000,000 annually to the Bay Area economy and
11 that jobs attained by its 2011-2012 graduates are valued at an additional \$123,000,000 per
12 year; and

13 WHEREAS, The average median wage for those jobs is \$11,100 more than positions
14 requiring a high school diploma; and

15 WHEREAS, The broader social and economic impact the City College of San
16 Francisco has on its students and the community is immeasurable; and

17 WHEREAS, All of the state’s community colleges will benefit from a fair and objective
18 accreditation process; and

19 ~~WHEREAS, A number of governmental agencies, including the United States~~
20 ~~Department of Education, the California Bureau of State Audits and a California Superior~~
21 ~~Court have found that the current accreditation process for California’s community colleges is~~
22 ~~deeply flawed and has violated state law and federal regulations; and~~

23 WHEREAS, A number of governmental agencies, including the United States
24 Department of Education and the California Superior Court have found that the current

1 accreditor for California's community colleges, the Accrediting Commission for Community
2 and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), has violated state law and federal regulations; and

3 WHEREAS, San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera brought suit against the
4 Accrediting Commission for California Community and Junior Colleges in response to their
5 decision to terminate City College of San Francisco's accreditation, alleging conflicts of
6 interest within the accrediting body and misinterpretation of federal policies; and

7 WHEREAS, The California State Auditor found that a lack of transparency and
8 incongruent application by the Accrediting Commission for California Community and Junior
9 Colleges in the decision process undermines the value of the accreditation process; and

10 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 404 (Chiu) would require the Board of Governors of the
11 California Community Colleges to solicit anonymous system-wide feedback on the
12 performance of the regional agency that accredits community colleges and communicate this
13 feedback to the federal body that oversees and reviews accrediting agencies, the National
14 Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI); and

15 WHEREAS, AB 1385 (Ting) would give California's community colleges the right to
16 approve or reject, by majority vote, the imposition of special assessments by their accreditor
17 to cover the accreditor's legal expenses ~~require notification to and the approval of community~~
18 ~~college member institutions before an accrediting agency increases membership fees, special~~
19 ~~assessments, or other payments, such as legal fees or costs of suit, charged to a community~~
20 ~~college; and~~

21 WHEREAS, AB 1397 (Ting) would reform aspects of the Community College
22 accreditation process to bring it into compliance with state and federal laws and regulations
23 and ensure that fairness, consistency, and transparency guide the manner in which
24 accreditation procedures are conducted, thereby protecting the interests of community college
25 students, our community, and the state; and

1 WHEREAS, It is critical that the City and County of San Francisco supports this
2 legislation for protecting City College of San Francisco and the educational opportunities it
3 provides; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports Assembly Bills
5 404, 1385, and 1397, and urges the Legislature and Governor to enact them.

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