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# Assembly California Legislature



**AL MURATSUCHI**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTY-SIXTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
CHAIR: BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE  
NO. 2 ON EDUCATION FINANCE  
BUDGET  
JUDICIARY  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEES  
CHAIR: SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
AEROSPACE

May 12, 2014

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Career Technical Education

Dear Governor Brown,

The members signed below are greatly concerned about the future of Career Technical Education (CTE) programs in the wake of the state's recent education financing changes. We have witnessed diversion of CTE resources during the "categorical flexibility" period that began in 2007-08, and with the inception of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF).

State and local policies have largely focused on college readiness and statewide assessment results. Due to this focus and the recent flexibility provided through the LCFF, the future of CTE is uncertain. This uncertainty will have a negative impact on our state's economic future.

While we support the basic principles of the LCFF and agree that locals are best situated to make key budget decisions, we believe that CTE should continue to be a strong statewide priority given the regional and statewide economic impacts.

Although we hope that local educational agencies (LEAs) will continue to provide CTE and include these programs in their Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs), we cannot be sure that districts will take into consideration state and regional workforce needs. Schools tend to focus on areas the state requires, funds and measures. These are the drivers that have played an important role in shaping instructional priorities for the past decade.

For state and federal vocational education dollars to be appropriately expended under the current K-12 system, we believe these resources should be directed to industry relevant, high-quality CTE programs.

For these and many more reasons, we urge your Budget to:

Preserve all state CTE funding (i.e., Regional Occupational Centers and Programs, Specialized Secondary Programs, California Partnership Academies, and Agriculture Incentive Grants) for their intended purpose of preparing the next generation of workers and entrepreneurs.

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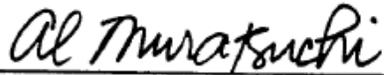
*Representing the cities of Gardena, Hermosa Beach, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, the Los Angeles communities of Harbor City and Harbor Gateway, and the communities of El Camino Village and West Carson*



Hold LEAs accountable for their use of these state and federal resources to ensure high-quality CTE, including specific and proven elements of all successful vocational education programs (e.g., industry advisory committees and partnerships, sequencing of CTE Standards-aligned courses, coordination and matriculation with higher education/training, robust counseling services, regional and state labor market alignment, industry certifications, etc.).

We urge your support of career technical education in order to better prepare students for our state and regional workforce needs.

Sincerely,



Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi



Assemblyman Brian Nestande