



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Resolution Passed Advocating for Classified Senate Inclusion in Title 5: A Milestone Toward Equity and Voice in Governance

Sacramento, CA — The California Community Colleges Classified Senate (4CS) is proud to announce the passage of a historic resolution: *"Resolution to Advocate for the Inclusion of California Community Colleges Classified Senates in Title 5."* This resolution represents a bold step forward in strengthening participatory governance and ensuring equitable representation for Classified Professionals within the California Community Colleges system.

While Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations outlines areas of purview for both Academic Senates and Student Leadership, it currently lacks any reference to Classified Senates — despite the fact that Classified Professionals make up approximately 60% of the full-time workforce¹ in the system. The passage of this resolution seeks to change that by calling for the formal recognition of local Classified Senates and their areas of purview in Title 5, reinforcing the foundational principles of accountability, transparency, and inclusion.

“This resolution affirms what we already know — that Classified Professionals are essential to student success and institutional effectiveness,” said Deborah Knowles, 4CS President. “It’s time their voice in participatory governance is formally recognized, just as it is for faculty and students.”

This resolution follows similar endorsements from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) and the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), signaling statewide support across stakeholder groups.

As 4CS advances its advocacy for Title 5 inclusion, the organization reaffirms its dedication to working in full partnership with labor unions and system stakeholders. This initiative is intended to complement, rather than duplicate or diminish, the vital role of collective bargaining—enhancing participatory governance by ensuring classified professionals have a meaningful voice in institutional planning, policy development and decision-making processes that shape their professional roles.

“We deeply value the essential role unions play in protecting Classified Professionals,” added Amparo Medina, 4CS President-Elect. “This effort is about complementing those protections by establishing a formal voice for classified senate in college and district governance matters that affect Classified Professionals in their roles supporting student success.”

4CS invites Classified, Academic, Administrative, and Union leaders across the state to join in this movement to institutionalize a culture of participatory governance that reflects the expertise, contributions, and leadership of all professionals.

¹ https://datamart.cccco.edu/Faculty-Staff/Staff_Annual.aspx