



April 28, 2014

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
332 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Sanders,

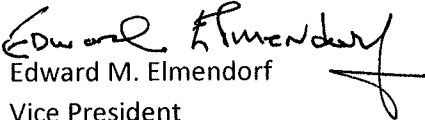
On behalf of the 420 member institutions of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to offer our support of your legislation to promote college through an innovative approach to increase access to dual enrollment programs.

The "Supporting College Access and Success Through Dual Enrollment Act" would authorize creation of new partnerships in every state between high schools and institutions of higher education to create and promote broader access to such programs for low- and moderate-income students. There is a strong body of evidence that dual and concurrent enrollment programs provide some of the most successful pathways to college attendance and graduation, particularly for needier students. Your legislation provides strong incentives for carefully crafted dual enrollment programs that at once promote greater rigor, more awareness of post-graduation college options, and proper support services to transition needy students from high school to college.

AASCU is a Washington-based higher education association of nearly 420 public colleges, universities and systems whose members share a learning- and teaching-centered culture, a historic commitment to underserved student populations and a dedication to research and creativity that advances their regions' economic progress and cultural development.

We thank you for your leadership on behalf of greater access to higher education and look forward to working with you on this and other educational initiatives.

Sincerely,


Edward M. Elmendorf
Vice President
Government Relations & Policy Analysis