

Submitter: Devon Lawson-McCourt
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1502

To the esteemed members of the Senate Committee On Education,

I am writing to extend my unwavering support for SB 1502, a progressive step towards democratizing access to the decision-making processes in our education system. This bill embodies the socialist principle of transparency and collective oversight, ensuring that the governing bodies of school districts, education service districts, community college districts, and public universities operate in the full view of the public they are meant to serve.

In our quest for a more equitable society, it is fundamental that we dismantle the barriers that restrict access to information and inhibit community participation. By mandating the live streaming and recording of meetings, SB 1502 directly confronts the issue of accessibility, allowing for a broader participation from all segments of our community—especially those who have been historically marginalized or cannot attend meetings due to work, childcare, or other commitments.

This bill is not just about making meetings accessible; it's about fostering a culture of accountability. When decisions that affect the futures of our students and the integrity of our education system are made behind closed doors, it breeds distrust and disengagement. SB 1502 ensures that those in positions of power within our education institutions remain answerable to the public, encouraging policies that reflect the collective will and best interests of the community.

Moreover, in an era where misinformation can spread rapidly, having direct access to the source of decisions and discussions serves as a powerful tool for informed citizenship. It empowers our community to critique, commend, and contribute to the educational policies that shape our society.

Let us also consider the educational benefits of this bill. By providing students, educators, and parents with the opportunity to observe governance in action, we are educating a new generation on the importance of civic engagement and the workings of public institutions. This is a practical extension of our educational curriculum, one that teaches by example the values of openness, democracy, and social responsibility.

In conclusion, SB 1502 is more than a legislative requirement; it is a statement of our collective values and a step towards a more inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance in our educational institutions. I urge you to support this bill, not just as a

legal mandate, but as a commitment to the principles of socialism that advocate for the democratization of our public spaces and the empowerment of our community.

Together, we can build an education system that is not only accessible and accountable but also reflective of the democratic ideals we aspire to uphold.

Sincerely,

Devon Lawson-McCourt

Associated Student Body Business Manager

11th Grade Class Treasurer

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A Supporter of Transparent and Inclusive Governance