

October 8, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

We are recent graduates and nursing students training to serve California's communities. We see the crisis every day: too few nurses at the bedside, classmates dropping out because tuition is too high, and families waiting for care that isn't available.

“ For place-bound students like me who need to stay close to home to help support their family, work while pursuing their degree, or care for others, there are simply too few affordable options. AB 1400 would change that, expanding student access without costing the state any additional money or passing on added costs to California taxpayers. ”

- Xong Her, Registered Nurse, Sacramento City College Graduate

“ I completed my bachelor's at National University, which was a great opportunity, but it came with a high price tag and student loans. I managed the loans and the commute, but for many Californians who already work or have a family, a bachelor's program at a community college would be life-changing. ”

- Betty Limon, registered nurse in the Los Angeles area and a Cerritos College student success coach

“ I would have definitely earned a Bachelor's degree in nursing if my local community college had offered it. Instead, I chose an accelerated program that helped me finish my schooling faster, but at a high cost. I'd heard of so many prospective students applying to state universities year after year without being accepted so I chose a faster, more expensive pathway to my career, but I recognize that's not an option for many. ”

- Sydney Lackey, registered nurse in the Greater Sacramento area

“ Local BSNs would make becoming a nurse so much more accessible. It's a wonderful option, especially for high school graduates who already know they want to be a nurse, to start serving your local community. Major hospitals just don't hire ADN nurses over BSN-prepared nurses. ”

- Jessica Eckman, current student of Samuel Merritt University

AB 1400 gives students like us a chance to finish our BSN close to home and at an affordable price. Community colleges are where many of us started. With this bill, they can also be where we finish. AB 1400 is about quality healthcare and our future nursing workforce. Please give us the opportunity to serve our communities by signing AB 1400 into law.

With respect,

California Nursing Students and Graduates