

MERCED COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

3600 M Street, Merced, California 95348-2898

Telephone: 209/384-6000 • Fax: 209/384-6043



Benjamin T. Duran, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Eva de Long, Board President
Jim Glidden, Vice President
Les McCabe, Clerk
Eugene J. Vierra
Robert Haden
Jinet Troost
Lewis S. Braxton

February 1, 2010

Senator Dianne Feinstein
FAX: (202) 228-3954

Dear Senator Feinstein,

As the president of Merced Community College District in the great Central Valley of California, I am urging you to vote to take quick Senate action on the Student Aide and Fiscal Responsibility Act (HR 3221). This badly needed legislation would:

- Increase Pell Grant award and numbers by \$40 billion over the next ten years
- Fund the American Graduation Initiative, which could provide approximately \$150 million per year for California's community colleges to enable improvements in student success
- Provide \$625 million for community college capital facilities in California

Thank you for your support of California's community colleges and for your support of higher education. Additionally, I hope you can urge your colleagues in the Senate to join you in support of HR3221.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjamin T. Duran".

Benjamin T. Duran, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President