



# California Educational Technology Professionals Association

<http://www.cetpa.net/>

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May 10, 2019

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT – AB 1303 (O’Donnell)**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez,

On behalf of the **California Educational Technology Professionals Association (CETPA)**, I write to express support for **AB 1303 (O’Donnell)**. This bill, for the 2018-19 fiscal year, and each year thereafter, appropriates \$450 million to the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program (CTEIG). Additionally, the bill sets the required local dollar match for grant recipients at \$1 for each dollar received from the program, commencing with the fiscal year starting July 1, 2019.

Recognizing the complexity and resource-intensive nature of providing quality CTE programs, Governor Brown and the Legislature established the CTEIG program as part of the 2015-16 budget. The funds for this program, however, were temporary, and the final appropriation to the program was made in 2017. The 18-19 budget added some stability for CTE programs by appropriating \$300 million in ongoing funding, however the funds were split, appropriating \$150 million for CTEIG, with an additional \$150 million going to the Strong Workforce Program, administered by the Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office.

This bill proposes to shift the \$150 million currently administered by the Strong Workforce Program to CTEIG, which is overseen by the California Department of Education, and also adds another \$150 million in ongoing funding to the program, bringing the total amount of funding for CTE programs in the state to \$450 million. These funds are critical to ensuring our students continue to receive a quality, well-rounded education.

We understand that this bill will impose a cost on the state, however, we would argue that this critical investment in CTE programs will better allow students to transition into California’s increasingly technical workforce, benefitting California’s economy long-term. Additionally, these dollars will ease some of the growing pressure on school district budgets across the state. For these reasons, **CETPA is pleased to support AB 1303**. If you have any questions regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Romley at (916) 557-9745, or [nick@capitoladvisors.org](mailto:nick@capitoladvisors.org).

Sincerely,

Andrea Bennett  
Executive Director, CETPA