May \_\_, 2022

The Honorable Chris Holden

Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee

1021 O Street, Suite 8220

Sacramento, CA 94814

**Re: AB 2774 (Weber, Holden) Education Finance: Lowest Performing Subgroup - Support**

Dear Chair Holden and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of [SCHOOL/ORG NAME], **I am writing to express my strong support for AB 2774 (Weber, Holden)** which would create a new supplemental grant in the Local Control Funding Formula for the lowest performing subgroup of students not currently receiving funds, African Americans.

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) was enacted in 2013 and was designed to be a more equitable system of funding, with the goal of providing additional funding for the highest needs students. Unfortunately, this important goal of equitable funding is not being fully met and some students are being left behind.

According to the California Department of Education’s Academic Achievement Dashboard, 2019 statewide testing data show that 67% of students in the lowest performing subgroup as defined in AB 2774 do not meet English Language Arts standards and 79% do not meet Math Standards.

The academic achievement gap continues to paralyze California’s education system. Students who have received LCFF funding have shown progress and improved outcomes due to concentrated resources aimed at their improvement. AB 2774 students have suffered for far too long without the additional support afforded to other populations.

This legislation would ensure that every AB 2774 student within the state is generating additional supplemental funding to provide resources to increase their academic performance and close the achievement gap. Now is the time to fix this inequity and ensure that all students who need additional funding and support to succeed academically are given this opportunity!

For these reasons, I support AB 2774. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[SIGNATURE]

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[ORGANIZATION]

Cc: Members and Staff, Assembly Appropriations Committee

Robert Becker, Assembly Republican Caucus

The Honorable Akilah Weber

The Honorable Chris Holden