June 25, 2020

The Honorable Jose Medina
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1930 (Medina) University of California and California State University: Student Eligibility Policy -- SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Medina,

NextGen California is pleased to support your AB 1930 (Medina), which will require the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) systems to engage in a multi-step process before they can make changes to their undergraduate admission policies. As specified, the multi-step process will include engaging with other higher education segments, working with a third-party research organization to conduct an impact assessment, and coordinating policy implementation with the appropriate elementary and secondary education systems.

Currently, the CSU is considering adding a year of quantitative reasoning coursework to their "A-G" subject admission requirements despite concerns raised by the Legislature and numerous stakeholder groups. Approving changes in student admission eligibility requirements without convening an effective implementation committee process, conducting an impact assessment, or coordinating with local education agencies will only exacerbate existing student achievement gaps in California. AB 1930 will help ensure that any new admission requirements do not negatively affect specific student cohorts (e.g. low-income or students of color).

NextGen California prioritizes policies and programs that support student access, success and time-to-completion as well as higher education system equity. For the above reasons, we strongly support your AB 1930.

Sincerely,

Arnold Sowell Jr.
Executive Director, NextGen California