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ADVISORY: Rep. Torres to Announce Bill Protecting Students' Basic Needs Congresswoman & local students will highlight need for legislation at Mt. San Antonio College

POMONA – Congresswoman Norma J. Torres (CA-35) will unveil the Basic Assistance for Students in College (BASIC) Act at Mt. San Antonio College on Wednesday, November 6th at 9:00 AM.

The legislation would ensure college students, *particularly Pell Grant recipients and attendees of community colleges or minority-serving institutions*, are able to meet their basic needs – such as food security, stable housing, and access to federal aid benefits – while pursuing their education.

Rep. Torres will be joined at the event by **local students who will speak to the challenges they face** making ends meet while pursuing their higher education.

~~~Event Details~~~

## WHAT

Press conference announcing the BASIC Act

#### WHO

Congresswoman Norma J. Torres Students from Mt. San Antonio College & Surrounding Schools

# **WHEN**

Wednesday, November 6th 9:00 AM

## **WHERE**

Mt. San Antonio College Founders Hall 1100 N. Grand Avenue Walnut, CA 91789

### **BACKGROUND**

Almost half of all college students have experienced food insecurity, and more than one in ten college students have experienced homelessness.

The BASIC Act provides for a dual approach to ensure students' basic needs are met. The legislation provides \$500 million in grants to help institutions of higher learning support their students, and streamlines aid coordination across the federal government.

Mt. San Antonio College is at the forefront of efforts to assist students with day-to-day needs. Their program, the <u>Mountie Fresh Basic Needs Resources program</u>, includes a monthly food pantry, housing referrals and case management support. Rep. Torres's bill would support programs like this in schools across the country.

More information about the BASIC Act is available here.

A map of Mt. San Antonio College Campus is here.