



1100 North Grand Avenue
Walnut, CA 91789-1399

909-274-7500
www.mtsac.edu

February 28, 2023

The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending Request for Wildland Fire Training Program at Mt. San Antonio College

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC), we are writing to express our appreciation for your consideration of the college's FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending request for its "Wildland Fire Training Program at Mt. San Antonio College."

Mt. SAC is the largest community college in California and is one of the state's largest workforce training providers. It is a leader in economic development and vocational training, including its longstanding Fire Training Program, which has been preparing students and placing them into immediate employment since 1988. In light of wildland fires that have increasingly ravaged much of the western United States in recent years and recognizing the high demand for professionals in the specialized field of wildland firefighting and prevention, the college has developed a Wildland Fire Training Program, which will launch coursework in the fall of 2023 and offer its first Wildland Fire Academy in the winter of 2024.

Mt. SAC has a history of successful partnerships with local industries, community-based organizations, and professional associations. Leveraging these strong partnerships, students completing the Wildland Fire Training Program will be prepared for immediate employment in high-demand, high-paying jobs with municipal fire departments, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management.

Mt. SAC already invests significant resources in our vocational programs using state and categorical funds to support instructional salaries, materials, and support services to ensure positive student outcomes. Congressionally Directed funding would enable the college to launch

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. Manuel Baca • Jay F. Chen • Judy Chen Haggerty, Esq.
Gary Chow • Robert F. Hidalgo • Peter Hidalgo • Laura L. Santos

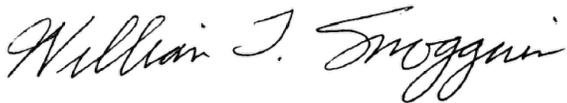
COLLEGE PRESIDENT / CEO – Dr. William T. Scroggins



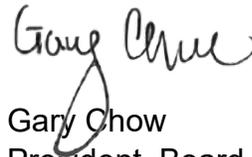
its Wildland Fire Training Program with the ideal equipment and supplies. This project would also offset the significant cost of gear and supplies that students must purchase to participate in the program, eliminating a significant barrier for underrepresented students. A one-time infusion of funding for equipment would support the program for years to come, producing more program graduates and ultimately more highly-trained wildland firefighters and prevention professionals throughout the region and the state. The college has a long track record of institutionalizing successful strategies, and this proposed project will be no exception.

We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



William T. Scroggins, PhD
President/CEO



Gary Chow
President, Board of Trustees