

Resolution
of the
California Student Aid Commission
honoring
Nancy Rose Anton

***Whereas,** Nancy Rose Anton was first appointed by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2010 to serve on the California Student Aid Commission. She is a leading expert on California higher education and financial aid policy after serving decades working in the California State Legislature. Anton was a principal consultant for the California State Education Committee from 1992-2009. During her tenure working for the Senate Education Committee, she worked on numerous key higher education policy issues. She played an integral role in the development and ultimate adoption of the 2001 Landmark Cal Grant Entitlement Program. She was the go-to expert in the state for developing policy solutions on financial aid, transfer and higher education data analysis, among other issues, all for the purpose of driving equity and educational opportunities for all students; and,*

***Whereas,** Nancy Anton developed her early policy experience when she was accepted to the prestigious California Assembly Fellowship Program in 1977, followed by an appointment to work as a consultant at the California Legislative Analyst's Office where she developed her keen fiscal and policy experience; and,*

***Whereas,** Nancy Anton drew on her deep higher education and financial aid expertise when serving on the Commission. She was a tireless advocate for student equity and was deeply concerned when students were awarded a Cal Grant award but did not take the final step to accept their awards. She and others referred to this as the "summer melt." She made this issue a top priority for the Commission, along with other key issues, such as offering financial aid to Dream Act students, expanding outreach to increase the number of students who complete the FAFSA or CADAA; and,*

***Whereas,** Nancy Anton always provided strong leadership while serving on the Commission. She was a strong advocate for having the Commission engage in an annual strategic planning process, which is now a routine part of annual planning. She chaired the Strategic Policy and Planning Committee from 2015 to 2019. She has served on numerous other committees, such as the Ad Hoc SEARS Committee, the Ad Hoc Dream Act Committee, and the Student Impact Committee. Anton has consistently worked to elevate the voices and concerns of college students throughout her career; and,*

***Whereas,** Nancy Anton served on the Student Aid Commission through one of the most consequential eras in its history, positioning the Commission to take a leadership role in efforts to reform and modernize California financial aid to best meet the needs of today's students; and,*

***Whereas,** Nancy Anton served as a legislative role model for women pursuing substantive policy roles working in the Legislature. She was one of the first legislative staffers to job share and work part-time while working as a powerful consultant for the Senate Education Committee. She paved the way for numerous female legislative staffers to balance family and work while making significant contributions to policy and the legislative process. She was one of the founders of a Capitol group called "Babies and Briefcases for Women"; and,*

Therefore, be it now

Resolved, this Commission and its staff commend Nancy Anton for her leadership and vision as a member of the California Student Aid Commission, and be it further

Resolved, that the Commission and staff wish Nancy Anton continued personal and professional success in her future work, service and activities.

Catalina Cifuentes
Chair

Marlene Garcia
Executive Director