



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUTH POLICY COALITION

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Chair Pacheco
Assembly Rules Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 6250
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2771 (Maienschein) School Site Absence Intervention Teams – SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Pacheco,

The Northern California Youth Policy Coalition (NCYPC) writes to express our support for Assembly Bill 2771 by Assemblymember Maienschein.

The Northern California Youth Policy Coalition represents youth from over thirty counties across Northern California from the North Coast to the North State to Sacramento. We seek to give a voice to rural youth who feel unheard and a platform to come together to advocate for issues that are most important to our rural youth in Northern California. Our main objective is to ensure that the youth voices of this region are heard on local, regional and state levels, where decisions make a direct impact on our rural communities.

We support AB 2771 because this bill would address an issue that schools across rural communities in California have been dealing with, especially post-pandemic, which is chronic absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism is a barrier for success to many students because of its effects on academic performance which can be caused by a number of factors. This bill addresses these factors by developing absence intervention plans, conducting home visits with chronically absent students, counseling and wellness check ins, workshop training for families and students, and partnering with public and nonprofit agencies to provide assistance to families and students.

This bill sets up a school site absence intervention team that focuses on community collaboration to address chronic absenteeism. The team will identify and intervene early, conduct comprehensive assessments, and work with community representatives to connect families and students with external resources. Chronic absenteeism is particularly challenging in rural areas due to transportation and healthcare access issues, highlighting the importance of this intervention to support student success. Addressing this issue is essential to ensuring that every student receives the necessary support to thrive academically and personally.

For these reasons, the Northern California Youth Policy Coalition urges your support for AB 2771. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bode Gower
Chair,
Northern California Youth Policy Coalition (NCYPC)

ORGANIZED VOICES FOR RURAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUTH

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