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**HACU Statement on California’s May Revise Higher Education Budget**

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – Though mostly positive in its changes to the original January budget, the May Revise represents a mixed bag for higher education, according to the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU).

The Governor’s May Revise to the budget includes additional funding for higher education, providing much needed resources for all three public segments of higher education. HACU is particularly pleased that the Governor and the University of California were able to reach an agreement which provided the UC with resources it needs while freezing tuition for students for two years. In addition, the Governor has shown a strong commitment to equity and closing the achievement/opportunity gap for students at the Community Colleges.

The fact that the Governor only included \$38 million General Fund of the \$97 million the CSU requested to fully serve students was a major disappointment to HACU. The CSU is the largest provider of four-year degrees to Latinos in the nation.

The Governor’s May Revise to the budget included an increase of \$1.9 million in the College Access Tax Credit Fund to provide a supplemental award for each student who receives a Cal Grant B Access Awards. However, for students attending a nonprofit institution, there is a far more devastating eleven percent cut looming for the Cal Grant Award that the Revise leaves untouched.

“Students need to be able to select the institution that best serves their educational needs,” said HACU President and CEO Antonio R. Flores. “We are disappointed that despite additional revenues, the Governor chose to allow further cuts to financial aid awards.”

**About HACU**

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities represents more than 450 colleges and universities committed to Hispanic higher education success in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Latin America, and Spain. The association’s headquarters are located in San Antonio, Texas, with government relations offices in Washington, D.C., and Sacramento, California. HACU’s regional office in Sacramento represents its membership in the western region of the U.S. HACU is the only national educational association that represents Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).

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