

Dear Chair Representative Leon
Vice Chairs Representatives Neron and Weber
Members, Representatives Hudson, Owens, Reardon, Ruiz, Smith, Sollman, and Wright

I am writing in support of HB 3007 (Part Time Faculty Health Bill).

Community colleges are becoming an increasingly attractive educational and financial option in this time of high costs for 4-year degree programs and the Biden Administrations commitment to provide free community college education. Both raise the issue of providing incentives for educators who choose to teach part-time in community college settings.

Based on federal data the percent of part-time faculty in higher education between 2013 and 2019 is 50.7% (2013), 50.2% (2015), and 48.5% (2019).

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/11/27/federal-data-show-proportion-instructors-who-work-full-time-rising>

We know also that part time faculty members lack the benefits of a full-time faculty member. HB 3007 contains a provision to provide health care benefits to part time faculty working at one or multiple institutions provided they meet PERS guidelines — 600-1800 hours per year and their case load comprises more than half-time.

Assuring a core mass of committed educators (part time or full time) requires a commitment to offer benefits. Providing health care benefits for the large percentage of part time educators (48.5%) is a wise investment for the education of our students and our economy longterm.

Please support HB-3007.