March 29, 2019

The Honorable Connie Leyva
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2083
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: SB 2 (Glazer and Allen) as introduced – SUPPORT IF AMENDED

Dear Chairwoman Leyva:

On behalf of the EdVoice Board of Directors, I write regarding SB 2, which would establish a commission to develop a plan for a P-20 Statewide Longitudinal Student Database. California's low-income 4th graders rank 50th in the country in math. But not every public school is failing. Accordingly, comprehensive data is absolutely necessary for policymakers at the local and state level to learn what is working and how to replicate success, where it exists, at scale. And it is needed before high-school.

EdVoice is strongly supportive of improved systems of transparency that can help shine a light on the effectiveness of successful P-20 education programs as well as the systemic inequities in California's public education system. However, at this time, SB 2 does not explicitly include reference to necessary and available data critical for that effort. And, California already pays for very relevant program information on early education and K-8 outcomes.

Data from the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and the eight state priorities' pupil outcomes data mandated to be reported in Local Control Accountabilty Plans (LCAPs) are not mentioned in SB 2. These are available and crucial data components to any statewide system intended to track outcomes and improve program delivery and equity for all of California's children. Accordingly, we believe these data should be explicitly referenced in the proposed subdivision (b) of section 66814 as part of the database plan.

Respectfully,

Bill Lucia

Bill Lucia
President

Cc: The Honorable Steve Glazer, California State Senator, 7th District
        The Honorable Scott Wilk, California State Senator, 21st District
        Members, Senate Education Committee
        Jeff Bell, Education Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance