June 8, 2023

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
Chair, Assembly Human Services Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 5640
Sacramento CA

RE: Support for ACA 7 (Jackson)

Dear Assemblymember Maienschein:

As an organization working to expose and eradicate the injustices and inequities in California schools and colleges, from early learning through higher education, The Education Trust–West (ETW) is pleased to support ACA 7 (Jackson). This measure would provide that, subject to approval by the Governor, the state may use state moneys to fund research-based, or research-informed, and culturally specific interventions or programs if those interventions or programs are established or otherwise implemented by the state for purposes of increasing the life expectancy of, improving educational outcomes for, or lifting out of poverty specific groups based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, or marginalized genders, sexes, or sexual orientations.

Research and data on public education show significant racial disparities in opportunity and achievement. In many cases, these disparities are rooted in race. ACA 7 recognizes this and would permit targeted, research-based interventions that improve educational outcomes and lift students out of poverty. Without ACA 7, we’ll continue to struggle to close opportunity and achievement gaps as no effective proxy for race has been found to target educational interventions and resources.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support ACA 7 and urge your “aye” vote.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Rivas
Senior Director, Policy and Government Relations
The Education Trust—West

cc: Assemblymember Corey Jackson
    Members of the Assembly Judiciary Committee
    Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee