



DALE KOOYENGA
STATE SENATOR · 5TH DISTRICT

State Capitol · P.O. Box 7882 · Madison, WI 53707-7882 · (608) 266-2512

January 18, 2022

TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Education

FR: Senator Dale Kooyenga

RE: Support for SB 833 – relating to grants to support the teaching of college courses in high schools.

Thank you for holding a hearing on SB 833.

The 2017-19 Wisconsin State Budget created the Early College Credit Program (ECCP). Under ECCP, any public or private high school can enter into a contractual agreement with an institution of higher education to allow pupils to enroll in an institution of higher education to take one or more nonsectarian course for dual credit. An institution of higher education means a UW System school, a tribally controlled college, or a private, non-profit institution of higher education located in the state. These courses may be taken online, in person or in a blended format.

This program can significantly reduce the rising cost of higher education for students. Along with the creation of the program, a \$500,000 per year grant program was created and administered by the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) to fund the ECCP. Though the funding was included in the 2021-23 budget, the underlying program to access the funding sunset in 2021.

Senate Bill 833 eliminates the sunset date of this successful program ensuring that students can again utilize the Early College Credit Program.

Thank you for hearing SB 833. I respectfully ask for your support.