



April 7, 2026

The Honorable Liz Ortega  
Chair, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1904 (Gipson and Muratsuchi)**  
**Position: Support**

Dear Chair Ortega:

The California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) is pleased to support AB 1904 (Gipson and Muratsuchi), as amended on March 9, 2026, which establishes a framework for credentialed educator apprenticeship programs in California.

CABE's vision is biliteracy, multicultural competency, and educational equity for all students, and our mission is to strengthen California's capacity to create caring and highly effective learning environments that promote multiliteracy and support English learners and culturally diverse communities.

California continues to face persistent educator shortages across multiple credential areas, particularly impacting bilingual education, special education, early childhood education, and school counseling. At the same time, the cost and structure of traditional teacher preparation pathways can create significant barriers for individuals who wish to enter the teaching profession. AB 1904 addresses these challenges by establishing a clear and coordinated structure for credentialed educator apprenticeship programs that allow aspiring educators to earn while they learn.

By strengthening collaboration between the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and the California Division of Apprenticeship Standards, AB 1904 creates a pathway that integrates high-quality preparation with paid, on-the-job experience. This approach expands opportunities for educator candidates who might otherwise be unable to participate in traditional, unpaid student teaching models. It also supports clinically rich preparation, mentorship, and supervision that can improve educator readiness and long-term retention in the profession.

Importantly, the bill establishes clear standards to ensure program quality, including required on-the-job training, mentoring, and alignment with accredited educator preparation programs. These safeguards help maintain the integrity of California's educator credentialing system while expanding access to the profession.

By providing an innovative pathway into teaching that reduces financial barriers and promotes workforce diversity, AB 1904 represents a thoughtful step toward strengthening California's educator pipeline and ensuring that schools can recruit and retain the talented professionals our students deserve.

For these reasons, CABE respectfully urges your support when the bill is heard in the committee. Should you have any questions, please reach out to CABE's Legislative Advocate Jennifer Baker at [jbaker@m-w-h.com](mailto:jbaker@m-w-h.com).

Sincerely,



Dr. Edgar Lampkin  
CABE Chief Executive Officer



Jennifer Baker  
CABE Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Mike Gipson, California State Assembly  
The Honorable Al Muratsuchi, California State Assembly  
Members, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee  
Megan Lane, Chief Consultant, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee  
Lauren Prichard, Republican Caucus, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee