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Press Release

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SCC BOG APPROVES BOND MEASURE FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT

FAIRFIELD, CA, AUGUST 1, 2012: After months of public input engaging over 1,000 constituents, Solano Community College District's Board of Trustees voted to place a **Student/Veterans' Affordable Education, Job Training/Classroom Repair Measure** on the November 2012 ballot.

"This measure will help ensure that the College can continue to provide high quality, affordable college options for students, active military and local veterans," stated Dr. Jowel Laguerre, College Superintendent/President.

"State takeaways from Solano Community College have been devastating," stated Laguerre. "It's clear we can't rely on Sacramento to adequately fund our local Community College."

Based near the home of Travis Air Force Base, Solano Community College is proud of those who serve in the Armed Forces and recognizes the special needs of area veterans.

"Many local veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan have been hit hard by the recession and are unemployed," said local War Veteran Jesse Branch. "This November measure will provide resources to expand job-placement programs and facilities to train and re-train local veterans as they re-enter the civilian workforce. "

The Measure also expands affordable education opportunities through a Middle College program that allows high school students to earn an associate's degree, saving them two years of college expenses on their way to a four-year degree.

"We must provide access to a high-quality college education close to home – especially when the costs of attending a public university in California have risen to as much as six times that of attending a community college," said Dr. Laguerre. "This Measure allows us to fund the

technology and infrastructure necessary to expand access to university courses through partnership programs with Cal Maritime, UC Davis, UC Berkeley and Sonoma State, allowing students to remain in the county where they already live and work and complete their 4-year degrees here.”

Additional funding is also needed to upgrade job training facilities to support education in automotive technology, nursing, firefighting, health sciences, biotechnology and clean energy fields.

“We are thrilled by the College’s commitment to expanding their Fire Training Facility that will assist area firefighters in learning vital skills and we, the County Fire Chiefs hope the College will consider adding EMT and Paramedic Programs in the future,” said Solano County Fire Chief Association President Vince Webster. Fairfield Mayor Harry T. Price also urged the Trustees to place the measure on the ballot.

As a Proposition 39 Bond, the Measure requires strong fiscal accountability requirements including a Citizens' Oversight Committee and an independent annual financial audit. No monies can be used for administrators’ salaries. All funds would stay local ---just for Solano Community College-- and no funds could be taken by the State.

For the full text of the Measure, please visit: www.solano.edu

About Solano Community College:

The College has served as the preeminent educational institution in Solano County since 1945 when it was founded as Vallejo Junior College. In the early 1970s, the College moved to its present Fairfield site, and is currently serving over 20,000 students throughout the academic year.

In addition to the main campus in Fairfield, the College has one Center in Vacaville, and one in Vallejo. To further serve the community, SCC offers courses at Travis Air Force Base, and operates a School of Aeronautics at the Nut Tree Airport.

Currently, Solano Community College offers Associate Degrees and Certificates in various disciplines, to include transfer courses to CSU and UC, and provides training in several trades. For more information, please visit us at www.solano.edu.

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