January 6, 2021

Colleagues:

The CSSO Association Executive Board unanimously endorsed Chancellor Eloy Oakley's statement regarding the domestic terrorist attack on our Democracy today and presents the following added comments:

As educational leaders of the largest higher education system in the United States, we remain steadfastly committed to protecting our students' rights and supporting their path to personal and professional growth. The attack on our nation's Capitol is abhorrent and it further strengthens our resolve to continue educating our students and the future leaders of our communities, our state and our country. Promoting social justice, equity and anti-racism must remain at the core of our efforts within the California Community Colleges. Our nation is at its best when there is an educated and civil discourse among our citizenry. We will continue our efforts to promote educated and civil discourse through our role in higher education to continue supporting our Democracy.

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California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley Issues Statement on Attack on U.S. Capitol

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley issued the following statement on today's mob attack on the U.S. Capitol and democratic process:

"The actions of violent rioters who have trampled our nation’s Capitol and our sacred democratic process must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. Our thoughts are with our state’s Congressional delegation, some of whom are graduates of our colleges, as they seek to carry out their constitutional duties. Community colleges are among the most democratizing institutions in our nation. As educators, these events reinforce the need to advance work of diversity, equity and inclusion in our colleges as we help build up communities and strengthen civic life."