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May 19, 2021

Mr. Steve Dickson
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

RE: Federal Aviation Administration Aviation Workforce Development Grant Program—Grant #13326632

Dear Administrator Dickson:

I am writing to express my support for the Aviation Workforce Development Grant Program, Aviation Maintenance application submitted by San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC). If approved, this project will enable SBVC to expand its Aviation Mechanics/Airframe and Powerplant Technologies program to high school students, improve existing technology, establish student scholarships, and support community outreach about careers in aviation maintenance.

SBVC serves a diverse student population from the cities of San Bernardino, Colton and Rialto. Many of the students are first-generation college students from low-income households who live in one of the 33 Qualified Zones of Opportunity surrounding the campus.

The Aeronautics program at SBVC has a longstanding and well-respected history in the field of aviation. For over 50 years, SBVC has produced quality graduates for employment in the aviation industry. Former graduates are employed at Cessna Citation, Delta Airlines, Federal Express, Southern California Aviation, United Airlines, and United Parcel Service. This award will allow SBVC to provide scholarships to defray the cost of FAA certification exams and the tool-boxes students need to begin work. This funding will also help upgrade current equipment and provide state-of-the-art technology critical to preparing students to meet the anticipated demands of the aviation industry.

By capitalizing on SBVC's established Aviation Mechanics/Airframe and Powerplant Technology program and leveraging existing positive relationships with local K-12 districts, the project will increase the pool of FAA-certified aircraft maintenance technical workers within the Inland Empire region. Further, the project will prepare students for life-changing opportunities and careers in the field of aviation. Student success through the proposed project may very well lead to entire families within our community and region being lifted out of the cycle of poverty.

I encourage you to give SBVC's application your full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable laws and regulations. If you have any questions, please contact Curt Lewis, Grant Program Director in my office: Curt.Lewis@mail.house.gov or 909-503-8388.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete Aguilar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "P" and "A".

Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress