



CALIFORNIA SENATE

RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Denise Moreno Ducheny, 40th Senatorial District;
Relative to Commending the

Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems

WHEREAS, The Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) is celebrating 30 years of exemplary educational service by providing valid and reliable information to the State of California and across the nation, and it is appropriate at this time to highlight its many achievements and to extend special recognition and commendations to this organization for its public work and many contributions to the field of adult education and literacy; and

WHEREAS, CASAS, a nonprofit for public benefit organization based in San Diego whose mission is "Helping people improve basic skills for education and workplace success," has provided timely reports containing reliable data, information, and guidance to the federal, state, and local governments that assisted them in forming policy and programs for the benefit of adult learners; and

WHEREAS, CASAS began development of its curriculum management and assessment system centered around measuring the instructional needs of adult learners resulting in a system aligned to relevant adult education content standards--agreed to and implemented by this state and national consortium of adult educators; and

WHEREAS, CASAS has developed and maintained this learner-centered competency-based curriculum management and assessment system through the efforts of a handful of field-based adult education practitioners from a few California adult schools and community colleges, which grew into two consortiums--the CASAS California Consortium that includes all funded Workforce Investment Act, Title II providers throughout California and the National CASAS Consortium composed of state level representatives, business and industry specialists, and CASAS certified trainers from 29 states, the District of Columbia, the Pacific Rim, and Singapore; and

WHEREAS, By partnering with local, state, and national field-based adult educators from adult education agencies, high schools, community colleges, community-based organizations, literacy programs, workplace, correctional institutions, at-risk youth, special populations, employability programs, and alternative education programs, the CASAS Consortiums established educational priorities for new research and development based on observed learner needs; assisted in developing, field-testing, and evaluating system components; validated their system across diverse populations to ensure relevant assessment and curriculum management met the educational needs for adult learners; and provided direction and policy to adult education practitioners statewide and nationally; and

WHEREAS, CASAS was recognized by the United States Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education for its significant contributions to the progress of education in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, CASAS is the only assessment system recognized and approved by the United States Department of Education's Joint Dissemination and Review Panel and Program Effectiveness Panel for its exemplary program status and its convincing evidence of program effectiveness, which allowed it to participate in the National Diffusion Network in providing training and assessment resources throughout the United States and its territories; and

WHEREAS, CASAS assumed the management and redevelopment of the National External Diploma Program, which also was recognized and approved by the United States Department of Education's Joint Dissemination and Review Panel and Program Effectiveness Panel for its ability to certify learner competence at the high school graduation level through rigorous performance assessments; and

WHEREAS, CASAS pioneered the application of modern measurement technology, Item Response Theory, in its large scale assessment of adults throughout California and across the nation by developing an educationally sound metric that reliably measures the educational progress of learners on a continuum of developmentally delayed adults to learners completing high school and transitioning into vocational and post-secondary training and education; and

WHEREAS, CASAS has proven to be a recognized leader in the forefront of educational data and evaluation and assessment and accountability; it provided invaluable insights to the adult education profession throughout the State of California and across the nation, thereby ensuring adults who participate in educational programs for adult learners will successfully assume their role as productive lifelong learners, community members, family members, workers, and citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY SENATOR DENISE MORENO DUCHENY, That she takes great pleasure in commending the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System in appreciation of the inspired professional service it has provided to the people of California and across the nation for the past 30 years, and extends sincere best wishes for a future filled with continued success.

Member Resolution No. 3137
Dated this 15th day of June, 2010.

Handwritten signature of Denise Moreno Ducheny in black ink.

Honorable Denise Moreno Ducheny
40th Senatorial District