

June 27, 2017

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Position: Support

Location: Senate Floor

**Re: AB 37 (O'Donnell) Pupil Instruction: visual and performing arts: content standards in media arts (As Amended March 6, 2017)**

Dear Assemblymember O'Donnell:

On behalf of the California Alliance for Arts Education I am writing to express our support for AB 37 (O'Donnell), legislation that would establish visual and performing arts standards in the subject of media arts, and require those recommendations to go through the same development, public review, and approval process for recommended revisions to other visual and performing arts content standards.

We recognize that the advance of technology in all forms is redefining the process of creating and responding to the arts and all forms of "media". The learning opportunities schools provide need to adapt and evolve to stay current and relevant for young people.

Student learning standards are only one essential element for instructional delivery. It is also important to establish clarity and alignment between teacher preparation programs, subject matter credentials, curriculum development, course offerings, CTE career pathways, and university admission requirements. It is our hope that the further development of media arts as a content area will be done in a collaborative fashion, drawing on the expertise and contributions of all arts disciplines.

We support this bill, and we ask you to consider adding language to the legislation, making explicit that there should be active participation of experts from all arts disciplines in developing the media arts standards and considering how they best align with or overlap with the other disciplines.

*The California Alliance for Arts Education is in its fifth decade of working to build a brighter future for our state by making the arts a core part of every child's quality education. A statewide leader and convener, the Alliance galvanizes California's abundance of arts and culture experts*

*to advocate for quality visual and performing arts instruction for all students. By collaborating effectively with the state's leading education and parent engagement agencies and providing an anchor for policy expertise at the state and local levels, the Alliance is the leader in promoting the arts in schools and enriching the lives of children, families and communities.*

Please contact our legislative advocate, Kathryn Lynch, at (916) 443-0202 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Landon", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Joe Landon  
Executive Director

cc: Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office  
Mr. Brandon Darnell, Consultant, Senate Education Committee  
Senate Floor Analysis  
Mr. Roger Mackensen, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Ms. Kathryn Lynch, Legislative Advocate  
California Alliance for Arts Education