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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19 Bills on GENup Legislative Slate Signed Into Law

Press release

Sacramento, California, 11 October 2021 — Yesterday, Governor Gavin Newsom signed and approved a plethora of bills and other education-related legislative actions into law. Many of these bills were pieces of legislation that GENup has lobbied for and supported, alongside other student advocacy organizations such as the California Student Board Members Association (CSBMA), and have been worked on and advocated for for countless hours within GENup and the California Legislature.

These bills include, but are not limited to:

- AB101, which will make Ethnic Studies an integral and mandatory graduation requirement beginning in the 2029-2030 school year.
- AB824, which will grant students the right to appoint a student board member to their County Board of Education, co-written with CSBMA.
- SB14, which will make mental health days an excusable reason for school absences, effective immediately.
- AB367, which will require public middle and high schools to provide free menstrual products in all women's and gender-neutral restrooms, and in at least one men's restroom.
- AB14, which will extend internet access to underserved populations.
- AB46, which will establish the California Youth Empowerment Commission.
- AB309, which will require the California Department of Education to develop mental health response protocols for usage by schools.
- SB224, which will require schools to offer instructional courses in mental health.
- AB245, which will require public post-secondary education institutions to update a former student's records to include the student's updated legal name or gender.
- SB354, which will reform the process for placement of foster youth.

GENup is overjoyed to see legislative action being taken to ensure the well-being and satisfaction of all students in California, from all backgrounds and all circumstances. It is GENup's goal to make sure that policies are passed that help support the youth across the State of California and the United States as a whole. The laws Governor Newsom signed yesterday are only one step forward in the greater battle for increased representation for the youth of our state and country.

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