



CALIFORNIA METALS COALITION

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April 3, 2018

The Honorable Philip Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
California State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Jim Cooper
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 4
California State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: SUPPORT - AB 2463 (Quirk-Silva and Cervantes)

Dear Chair Ting and Chair Cooper:

California is home to approximately 4,000 metalworking facilities, employing over 350,000 Californians. The average industry salary is \$66,400/year in wages and benefits.

8 out of 10 employees in the metalworking sector are considered ethnic minorities or reside in disadvantaged communities throughout Southern California. A job in the metals sector is often the only path to the middle class for many of these Californians.

I am writing to express the California Metals Coalition's support for the \$20 million proposed in the Governor's Budget and AB 2463 establishing the Small Business Technical Assistance Program at the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.

We are committed to supporting the growth and retention of small manufacturers and businesses in California and this program is a critical step toward that goal.

AB 2463 establishes the Small Business Technical Assistance Program, administered through GO-Biz, for the purpose of providing matching funds to federally designated small business assistance centers, including the Small Business Development Centers, the Women's Business Centers, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Center, the Procurement Technical Assistance Centers, and the Veteran Business Outreach Centers. These are important programs supporting small business growth in California and we ask you to support the Governor's \$20 million budget for Small Business Technical Assistance.

Sincerely,

James Simonelli
Executive Director