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PRESS RELEASE

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California Workforce Development Board Chair Selected to Lead National Association of State Workforce Board Chairs

SACRAMENTO— Dr. Angelo Farooq, Chair of the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB), has been elected Chair of the National Association of State Workforce Board Chairs. He brings to this national leadership position his experience promoting job quality, equity, and climate resilience in California. Dr. Farooq has served as Chair of the CWDB during a time of unprecedented investment of state funds in sector-based strategies aimed at meeting the skilled workforce needs of employers to make them more competitive and spur greater economic development.

“I am honored to have the trust and confidence of my colleagues across the nation,” said Dr. Angelo Farooq. “In my five years serving as Chair of the CWDB, we have expanded high road partnerships to new sectors, established construction partnerships in every corner of our state, and much more. I look forward to working with my fellow workforce development board chairs to share what has worked here in California and how we can extend economic opportunity to more Americans.”

“Dr. Farooq has been instrumental in building a high-road economy here in California,” said Stewart Knox, Secretary of California’s Labor & Workforce Development Agency. “Under Governor Newsom’s leadership, Dr. Farooq and the CWDB have over \$1 billion in workforce investments in the field today and are leading the way in creating good jobs and meeting the workforce needs of California businesses.”

These workforce investments come at a time when states are trying to ensure that a skilled workforce is ready for historic federal infrastructure funding in transportation, clean energy, and broadband. The most recent state budget in California included \$50 million for the CWDB to support High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) focused on transportation infrastructure projects. HRCC is a statewide industry-led worker coalition that prepares workers from underserved communities for careers in construction in various crafts and has shown

impressive results.

The [National Association of State Workforce Board Chairs](#) is a membership organization composed of the chairs of Governor-appointed state workforce development boards, which are responsible for overseeing state workforce development systems. The Association is an affiliate of the National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices, which supports administration and convenings for the Association.

The [California Workforce Development Board](#) works in partnership with workers, employers, local workforce development boards, education partners, and other stakeholders to build an inclusive high road economy defined by equity, quality jobs, and climate resilience.

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