

UCAN

United Chamber Advocacy Network

*El Dorado County Joint Chamber Commission; Elk Grove Chamber Commerce; Folsom Chamber of Commerce;
Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce; Roseville Area Chamber of Commerce*

Where You Can Make a Difference for Business in California!

April 12, 2018

Hon. Tony Thurmond
Chair, Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment
Legislative Office Building
1020 N Street, Room 115
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2420 (Quirk-Silva) re: Employment Training – Soft Skills – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Thurmond:

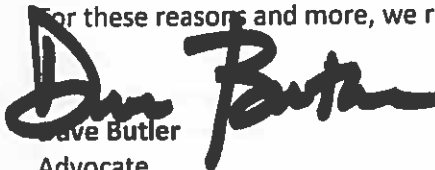
On behalf of the chambers of commerce that comprise the United Chamber Advocacy Network (UCAN) and their nearly 4800 combined members, I am writing to express support for Assembly Bill 2420 (Quirk-Silva) which proposes to direct the California Employment Development Department to include "soft skills" as part of basic skills and literacy training.

In a recent joint membership survey, the UCAN chambers asked "what is the top issue impacting your business' bottom line?" Following close behind the "bottom line" issues of governmental regulations, taxes, HR policy and legal liability, members most often cited "hiring a qualified workforce" as a barrier to their success.

Employers across all sectors have long cited the lack of work readiness skills as a challenge among people entering and reentering the workforce. Customer service skills, professional appearance and work habits like simply showing up for work on time, while once taken for granted, are now lacking in many new employees.

We appreciate the recognition that "soft skills" are key to an individual employee's success and advancement in a career and profession.

For these reasons and more, we respectfully urge your "AYE" vote on AB 2420.



Dave Butler
Advocate

United Chamber Advocacy Network

cc. Assemblymember Quirk-Silva
Members, Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment
Assemblymembers Ken Cooley, Frank Bigelow, Jim Cooper, Kevin Kiley