



### **Former Senator Marty Block to Speak at FRC Graduation**

For Immediate Release  
April 29, 2019

Former California Senator Marty Block will address the 2019 graduating class from Feather River College. As a State Senator, Mr. Block sponsored the legislation that allowed 15 California community colleges to offer an applied bachelor's degree. Feather River College's 49<sup>th</sup> associate degree and 2<sup>nd</sup> bachelor's degree commencement activities begin at 5:00 PM on Friday, May 24, 2019. There is a reception before the ceremony at 4:00 PM for family, friends, and graduates.

As a Senator, Marty Block worked tirelessly to allow community colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees not available at CSU or UC campuses. He sponsored legislation multiple times until he could broker a deal for all constituents that served all regional areas of California. "It is fair to say that FRC would not have the Bachelor Degree in Equine & Ranch Management without his determination," said Dr. Kevin Trutna, Superintendent/President. "We are honored to have the legislator who developed a solution to industry workforce needs. I asked Mr. Block if he would like to hand out the degrees that he created. He was delighted to support students and it is even more special with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities at FRC."

As a state senator, Marty Block served the 39<sup>th</sup> District in San Diego from 2012 until 2016. He served as an assembly member for San Diego's 78<sup>th</sup> District from 2008 to 2012. Marty Block also served on the San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees from 2000 until 2008, he was judge pro tem at the San Diego County Superior Court from 1998 to 1999, and an elected member of the San Diego County Board of Education from 1986 to 1994. Professionally, he retired from San Diego State University, where he worked from 1979 until 2006 as a professor, director, and assistant dean of education.

Marty Block earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Indiana University and a Juris Doctorate from DePaul University. He is currently serving as the Chair of the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.



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### About Feather River College

Feather River Community College District, located in Quincy, California, is a small, rural public community college offering courses in transfer programs, career and technical training, basic skills education and celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the 2018-19 academic year. In May 2018, FRC awarded California's first community college bachelor degree in Equine and Ranch Management as one of only 15 community colleges statewide authorized to offer a bachelor's degree. FRC offers small classes where students receive individual attention from faculty and staff in its location known as "the million acre classroom." Unique programs in equine studies, outdoor recreation leadership, fish and wildlife hatchery, and environmental studies enhance traditional transfer programs and technical training. Student dormitory housing is available. FRC boasts an accomplished athletic program with several men's and women's championship sports supported by the local community. The Board of Trustees recently adopted an ambitious plan ensuring that FRC is a leader in environmentally sustainable practices. Academically, FRC ranks at the top for transfer, graduation, and retention rates amongst small California community colleges. For further information, contact (530) 283-0202 or visit [www.frc.edu](http://www.frc.edu).