

Government Relations Update

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Status of Bills in 2017 California Legislative Session

AB19 (Santiago) Community colleges: enrollment fee waiver

As amended, this bill would waive the fee, for one academic year, for first-time community college students who enroll in 12 or more semester units or the equivalent, as specified. *Set to be heard by the Assembly Higher Education Committee on March 28. The Chancellor's Office is neutral on this bill as they are more interested in helping provide funds for living expenses or increasing Cal Grant B amounts.*

AB405 (Irwin) Public postsecondary education: community college districts: baccalaureate degree cybersecurity pilot program

This bill would authorize the board of governors, in consultation with the California State University and the University of California, to establish a statewide baccalaureate degree cybersecurity pilot program at not more than 10 community college districts, to be determined by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges and approved by the board of governors. *Set to be heard by the Assembly Higher Education Committee on March 28. The Chancellor's Office has taken no position on the bill and instead wants to monitor the success of existing baccalaureate degree programs before adding additional ones.*

SB 68 (Lara) Exemption from non-resident tuition (AB 540 transfer students)

This bill would instead exempt a student, other than a nonimmigrant alien, from nonresident tuition at the California State University and the California Community Colleges if the student has a total of 3 or more years of attendance at California elementary schools, California secondary schools, campuses of the California Community Colleges, or a combination of those schools, as specified, and the student graduates from a California high school or attains the equivalent, attains an associate degree from a campus of the California Community Colleges, or fulfills minimum transfer requirements established for the University of California or the California State University for students transferring from campuses of the California Community Colleges. *Passed out of Senate Education Committee and moving on to Appropriations.*

SB 341 (Wilk) School bonds: citizens' oversight committee: member terms

This bill would instead require a member of the citizens' oversight committee to serve on the committee for no less than one 2-year term and for no more than 6 consecutive 2-year terms. Existing law requires that the citizens' oversight committee consist of at least 7 members, and requires a member to serve for a minimum term of 2 years and for no more than 3 consecutive terms. *Passed out of the Senate Education Committee and added to Senate Consent Calendar.*

SB478 (Portantino) Public postsecondary education: transfer of community college students to the California State University or University of California

This bill, as amended, would require the governing board of each community college district to direct the appropriate officials at their respective campuses to (1) identify those students who have completed an associate degree for-transfer, (2) notify those students of their completion of the degree requirements, (3) automatically award the student with the degree, and (4) add the student to an identification system maintained by the community college campus in a manner that can be accessed electronically by the California State University and the University of California enrollment systems. The bill would require that these steps be completed within 45 days of a student's completion of the associate degree of transfer and would authorize a student to affirmatively exercise an option to not receive an associate degree of transfer or to be included in the accessible identification system maintained by the community college campus. *Set to be heard by the Senate Education Committee on March 29. The Chancellor's Office is seeking input/reaction on this bill from college leaders.*