

COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATE

Copyright © 2018 School Services of California, Inc.

Volume 38

For Publication Date: August 24, 2018

No. 17

Senate Select Committee Holds Hearing on Longitudinal Data Systems for California's Education Sectors

On Tuesday, August 7, 2018, the Senate Select Committee on Student Success held an informational hearing on longitudinal data systems across California's education segments. Currently, California is one of twelve states lacking a system that records data of students from early childhood education thru postsecondary education.

The hearing was chaired by Senator Steven Glazer (D-Orinda), who earlier this year introduced [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1224](#), which would have required the California Department of Education, the California Community Colleges (CCC), the California State University (CSU), and request the University of California (UC), to establish a data collection system to track students from K-12 through public postsecondary education and into the workforce. Despite the bill passing unanimously out of the Senate Education Committee, it was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee where the committee analysis revealed several implementation issues that could have resulted in significant cost implications.

The hearing consisted of three panels that featured researchers, stakeholders, and representatives from all of California's public education segments. The panelists expressed varying degrees of support for a data system connecting all of California's education sectors. Each of California's four major public education agencies (K-12, CCC, CSU, and UC) currently have their own data system which tracks student performance; however, these systems are siloed. Governor Jerry Brown has shown resistance in establishing a centralized data system by vetoing several pieces of legislation similar to SB 1224 during his term.

While the senators and panelists agreed that there is not a conceivable path this year for creating a longitudinal data system across all education sectors, Senator Glazer and others at the hearing reminded folks that current Lieutenant Governor and 2018 gubernatorial candidate Gavin Newsom has expressed support for the idea, and they are optimistic that they can work with his administration should he win in November.

The hearing suggests that this issue will be something that the Legislature will continue to work on going into the 2019-20 legislative session; however, even with the backing of a new governor, establishing a centralized data system would be a costly and timely process.

The Senate staff report from the hearing can be found [here](#), while the video of the hearing can be found [here](#).

—Kyle Hyland