

## Legislative Update Second House Appropriations Committee Outcomes



Today, both the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees held Suspense File hearings. Bills that survived out of the Suspense File will remain in play this year to be further debated and acted upon by the Legislature. These critical fiscal committees advanced or held over 600 bills. Lawmakers now have until September 13 to pass bills before they leave for Interim Recess.

The League tracked nearly 40 bills on Suspense in the Assembly and Senate Appropriations Committees, including our sponsored legislation AB 30 (Holden) and AB 612 (Weber) both of which passed unanimously. Of key interest were also bills of significant concern like AB 302 (Berman) and bills the League and districts across the state strongly support such as AB 48 (O'Donnell), AB 720 (Muratsuchi), and AB 1727 (Weber).

Below please find the outcome and status of bills heard in today's hearing.

### **AB 2 (Santiago D) Community colleges: California College Promise.**

Position: Support

This bill authorizes a community college to waive fees for two (2) academic years for any student attending school full time. As a condition of utilizing Promise funds, a community college must meet all Promise program requirements, including outreach to high schools, maximizing need-based financial aid, participating in the federal loan program, complying with AB 705, and participating in the Guided Pathways program.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations.

### **AB 30 (Holden D) Dual Enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships (CCAP).**

Position: Sponsor

AB 30 (Holden) Expands and Protects Dual Enrollment. Specifically, the bill: 1) Prevents College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnerships across California from expiring at the end of 2021 and ensures dual enrollment opportunities remain available to students who may not already be college-bound or who are underrepresented in higher education; 2) Streamlines the process for developing CCAP agreements between K-12 and community college districts; 3) Adds continuation high schools to the definition of students that can benefit from dual enrollment programs; 4) Allows units completed as part of a CCAP dual enrollment program to count towards determining registration priority at a community college; 5) Allows high school students to complete one application for the duration of their attendance at a community college as a dual enrollment student and simplifies the student application; and 6) Prohibits assessing any fees to high school students in CCAP courses, including students in adult continuation high schools.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations unanimously with amendments. Amendments include streamlining the parental consent process.

### **AB 48 (O'Donnell D) Education finance: school facilities: Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond Acts of 2020 and 2022.**

Position: Support

Would place a \$13 billion general obligation bond measure on the March 2020 primary ballot and an unspecified general obligation bond measure on the November 2022 general election to fund K-14 facility construction and modernization.

Status: Passed to Senate Rules Committee.

### **AB 130 (Low D) Postsecondary education: Higher Education Performance, Accountability, and Coordination Commission.**

Position: Watch

This bill would create the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability that would be established to coordinate the state's systems of higher education. It would be led by a five (5) member

commission appointed by the Governor and state legislature. Employees of postsecondary institutions would be excluded from serving on the commission. A thirteen (13) member advisory body would be created with segmental, faculty and student representation.

It would be charged with overseeing higher education institutions, setting state goals and long-term planning of state higher education policy. It would be empowered to review and make recommendations to the Governor and State Legislature on the following:

- State goals and priorities for higher education.
- Need of and locations for new campuses of public higher education colleges.
- Proposals by public segments for new programs or priorities of those segments.
- Degree of coordination between those segments.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations.

#### **AB 302 (Berman D) Parking: homeless students.**

Position: Oppose

Would mandate that community colleges open campus parking lots overnight to homeless students so they may camp in their cars. The provisions of the bill would apply to all colleges in the state unless a college provides hotel vouchers, rapid rehousing services, and housing-focused emergency grants. While the bill technically permits colleges to opt-out of the provisions around parking lots, the required services are prohibitively expensive, and no district is currently qualified to opt-out. The bill, more importantly, does not include a proposal to explore a more substantive solution to the housing challenges students face.

Additionally, the bill was amended to attempt to reduce a college's liability, but institutions would still be required to demonstrate a good faith effort to minimize risk to a student.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations with amendments. Amendments include delaying implementation by one year to July 1, 2021, exempting facilities near elementary schools, and modifying opt-out provisions. In order to opt-out, a college must provide one of the following: emergency grants, hotel vouchers, or rapid rehousing.

#### **AB 500 (Gonzalez D) School and community college employees: paid maternity leave.**

Position: Watch

Would require schools and community college districts to provide at least 6 weeks of a leave of absence with full pay for a certificated employee, or an academic employee, of the district or charter school who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy from those conditions.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations.

#### **AB 540 (Limón D) Postsecondary education: student financial aid: Cal Grant B Service Incentive Grant Program.**

Position: Support

Would establish a work-study program for AB 540 students who receive a Cal Grant B Access Award. It would provide 2,500 grants of up to \$3,000 a year for students who volunteer or provide community service for non-profit programs.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations with author amendments.

#### **AB 612 (Weber D) CalFresh: Restaurant Meals Program.**

Position: Sponsor

Would create a statewide MOU between the Chancellor's Office and Department of Social Services to streamline the process for a college to accept Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards on campus. This bill will allow a student to utilize their CalFresh benefits for meals on campus.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations unanimously.

#### **AB 720 (Muratsuchi D) Community colleges: funding: instructional service agreements with public safety agencies.**

Position: Support

This bill would provide that instruction by community college districts under instructional service agreements (ISAs) with public safety agencies would be funded under the apportionment formula used for instruction in career development and college preparation (CDCP).

Status: Held as a two-year bill.

**AB 943 (Chiu D) Community colleges: Student Equity and Achievement Program funds.**

Position: Support

Would authorize the use of funding for student equity plans for the provision of emergency student financial assistance to eligible students to overcome unforeseen financial challenges that would directly impact a student's ability to persist in the student's course of study.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations.

**AB 1727 (Weber D) Community colleges: career development and college preparation courses.**

Position: Support

Would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to adopt regulations, no later than April 15, 2020, requiring the accounting, for purposes of state funding of community colleges, of students enrolled in certain noncredit/CDCP courses to be conducted by positive attendance count or on a census date basis.

Status: Passed Senate Appropriations.

**SB 3 (Allen D) Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance.**

Position: Watch

This bill would create the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability that would be established to coordinate the state's systems of higher education. It would be led by a five (5) member commission appointed by the Governor and state legislature. Employees of postsecondary institutions would be excluded from serving on the commission. An eleven (11) member advisory body would be created with segmental, faculty and student representation.

It would be charged with overseeing higher education institutions, setting state goals and long-term planning of state higher education policy. It would be empowered to review and make recommendations to the Governor and State Legislature on the following:

- State goals and priorities for higher education.
- Need of and locations for new campuses of public higher education colleges.
- Proposals by public segments for new programs or priorities of those segments.
- Degree of coordination between those segments.

Status: Held.

**SB 14 (Glazer D) Education finance: Higher Education Facilities Bond Act of 2020.**

Position: Watch

Would enact the Higher Education Facilities Bond Act of 2020, which, upon approval by the state voters, would authorize \$8 billion in general obligation bonds, with one-half of the amount designated for the University of California and the Hastings College of the Law and the other half designated for the California State University

Status: Referred to Rules Committee.

**SB 390 (Umberg D) School safety: school security officers and security guards.**

Position: Watch

Would require school security officers employed by a school or community college district to complete a training course regardless of the number of hours worked per week. The bill would require school districts, charter schools, county offices of education, and community college districts to provide the training required for their school security officer employees during regular work hours, except as specified. By imposing additional duties on school districts, charter schools, county offices of education, and community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Status: Passed Assembly Appropriations.

**SB 462 (Stern D) Community colleges: Urban and Rural Forest and Woodlands Restoration and Fire Resiliency Workforce Program.**

Position: Watch

Contingent on a specific appropriation in the budget, would require the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, working in collaboration with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, to develop a forest and woodlands restoration workforce model curriculum and vocational programs to be offered by community college districts commencing on or before July 31, 2021.

Status: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

**SB 484 (Portantino D) Public postsecondary education: community college transfer students.**

Position: Watch

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 those students the degree.
- (4) Add students to an identification system at the end of each academic year that the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall maintain and that can be accessed electronically by the California State University and the University of California.

Status: Passed Assembly Appropriations. Amendments include required compliance by Fall 2020.

**SB 493 (Jackson D) Education: sex equity.**

Position: Watch

Would permit a student or the Attorney General a private right of action to sue higher education institutions if either entity feels their rights under SB 493 (Jackson) was violated during a Title IX sexual assault or violence investigation. The civil penalty would be limited to \$2,500 per day of the violation and capped at \$50,000. The bill would require the governing board or body of each of these institutions to:

- (1) Disseminate a notice of nondiscrimination to each employee, volunteer, and individual or entity contracted with the institution.
- (2) Designate at least one employee of the institution to coordinate its efforts to comply with its responsibilities specified in this act.
- (3) Adopt rules and procedures for the prevention of sexual harassment.
- (4) Create reasonable procedures for the investigation of policy violations.
- (5) Adopt and publish on its internet website grievance procedures providing for the prompt and equitable resolution of sexual harassment complaints.
- (6) Publish on the institution's internet website the name, title, and contact information for the employee designated to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with and carry out the responsibilities specified in this act and any individual official with the authority to investigate complaints or to institute corrective measures, as specified.
- (7) Include specified training to each employee engaged in the grievance procedure.
- (8) Include annual training for residential life student and nonstudent staff for the trauma-informed handling of reports regarding incidents of sexual harassment or violence at an institution with on-campus housing
- (9) Notify employees of the obligation to report sexual harassment to appropriate school officials.
- (10) Provide training to all employees on the identification of sexual harassment. This bill would authorize the Attorney General and any student or former student who alleges to have suffered injury in fact caused by a violation of these provisions to bring an action in a court to enjoin or recover specified damages for, a violation of its provisions, as specified.

Status: Held in Assembly Appropriations.

**SB 554 (Roth D) Public Schools: Adult School Students: Advanced Scholastic and Vocational Training Program.**

Position: Watch

Would authorize the governing board of a school district overseeing an adult education program or the governing board of a community college district overseeing a noncredit program to authorize a student pursuing a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate to enroll as a special part-time student at a community college, as provided. The bill would credit or reimburse the community college through the apportionment process for the student's attendance at the college, as specified.

Status: Passed Assembly Appropriations.

**SB 575 (Bradford D) Cal Grants: student eligibility.**

Position: Support

This bill would permit students who are currently incarcerated to be eligible for both the Cal Grant Entitlement and Competitive Awards.

Status: Passed Assembly Appropriations.

**SB 660 (Pan D) Postsecondary education: mental health counselors.**

Position: Watch

Would require the Trustees of the California State University and the governing board of each community college district to establish a goal of having one full-time equivalent mental health counselor with an applicable California license per 1,500 students enrolled at each of their respective campuses to the extent consistent with state and federal law. The bill would define mental health counselors for purposes of this provision. The bill would require those institutions, on or before January 1, 2021, and every 3 years thereafter, to report to the Legislature how funding was spent and the number of mental health counselors employed on each of its campuses, as specified.

Status: Passed Assembly Appropriations.

We invite you to join us for our next Government Relations webinar on Tuesday, September 17 at 11:00 a.m. Register online. For more information, please email [lizette@ccleague.org](mailto:lizette@ccleague.org).