

Government Relations Update

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Bills of Interest – 2015 California Legislative Session

AB13 (Chavez) **Community Colleges: Veterans Exemptions from Nonresident Tuition**

This bill would additionally exempt nonresident students enrolled at a community college who are using, or are intending to use, Federal GI Bill education benefits, as specified, to cover the costs associated with enrollment as a community college student. This bill would authorize community college districts to report students exempted from nonresident tuition under this bill as resident full-time equivalent students for purposes of calculating apportionments to those districts. *(STATUS: Introduced)*

AB151 (Rodriguez) **Income Taxes: Credits: Apprenticeships**

This bill initially is viewed as potentially beneficial to community colleges. The thinking that if employers are given tax credits (\$2,000 per) for hiring apprentices, then the demand for apprentices would increase, which in turn could mean a demand for classes. If approved, the tax credits would begin in 2017.

(STATUS: Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee)

AB176 (Bonta) **Data Collection**

This bill would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Trustees of the California State University, the Regents of the University of California, and each campus of the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California, whenever they collect demographic data as to the ancestry or ethnic origin of students, to use specified collection categories and tabulations for each major Asian group and each major Pacific Island group, as specified, and to include that data using those categories in every demographic report on ancestry or ethnic origins of students.

(STATUS: Assembly Higher Education Committee)

AB200 (Alejo) **Student Financial Aid Competitive Cal Grant Awards**

This bill would increase the total of Competitive Cal Grant and B awards granted annually to 100,000. Existing law limits awards to 25,000 per year. This bill would instead require that an unspecified total number of Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards be granted for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years and that 100,000 be granted for the 2018–19 academic year and each academic year thereafter.

(STATUS: Assembly Higher Education Committee)

AB206 (Stone) **Student Financial Aid: DREAM Work-Study Program**

This bill would allocate an additional \$15M for work study and only applies to CSU and UC students as currently written. The authors would consider adding community colleges to the mix if there is demand from “impacted” campuses, those determined to have a large population of AB540 students.

(STATUS: Assembly Higher Education Committee)

AB 288 (Holden) Public schools: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships

This bill would authorize the governing board of a community college district to enter into a College and Career Access Pathways partnership with the governing board of a school district located within its service area with the goal of developing seamless pathways from high school to community college for career technical education or preparation for transfer, improving high school graduation rates, or helping high school pupils achieve college and career readiness. *(STATUS: INTRODUCED)*

AB393 (Hernandez) Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program

This bill would establish the Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program, which would authorize the governing board of a community college district that has or intends to establish veteran resource centers on campuses within the community college district to apply to the chancellor for a grant for purposes of providing resources to veterans and active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States enrolled at those campuses. *(STATUS: Introduced)*

SB15 (Block) Postsecondary Education: Financial Aid

This bill would increase the total number of Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards granted annually to 30,000 and would increase the maximum tuition award amount for Cal Grant A and B for students at private nonprofit postsecondary schools to \$9,084 for the 2015–16 award year and each award year thereafter. *(STATUS: Introduced)*

SB 66 (Leyva) Career Technical Education Pathways Program

This bill would extend the operation of the Career Technical Education Pathways Program until July 1, 2018. *(STATUS: Senate Education Committee)*

SB 186 (Jackson) Community college districts: removal, suspension, or expulsion

This bill would authorize the governing board of a community college district to remove, suspend, or expel a student for conduct occurring off of the community college district property, as specified. *(STATUS: Introduced)*

SB 247 (Lara) Dream Centers: educational support services

This bill would authorize the governing board of each school district or county office of education that maintains any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, the governing board of each community college district, and the Trustees of the California State University to establish, and would encourage the Regents of the University of California to establish, on-campus Dream Centers to provide information to undocumented pupils and students about educational support services. *(STATUS: Introduced)*

More information can be found on these bills at www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov