

# Government Relations Update

March 6, 2014  
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## Around the District

- Senator Carol Liu was in Pasadena on March 6, 2015 as part of the SGV Economic Partnership's weekly legislator breakfasts. She indicated she is carrying 29 bills this year, on everything from career education to aging and long-term care. She commented that it is unlikely Gov. Brown will go for extending Prop 30 beyond its sunset date of 2018. She announced that the Senate will be holding a hearing next Wednesday regarding Adult Ed/Career Tech Ed.
- Assemblymember Ian Calderon will be the guest at a March 13 breakfast. Please email Jill for details
- The Pomona Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Legislative Luncheon on April 17 at the Sheraton Fairplex. Confirmed legislators are: Rep. Norma Torres, Controller Betty Yee, Senator Connie Leyva, Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez and L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis. Mt. SAC has bought a table for the event.

## Bills of Interest – 2015 California Legislative Session

### VETERANS

#### 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: Committee on Veterans Affairs*)

#### AB27 (Chavez) **Public postsecondary education: exemption from nonresident tuition** (amended March 4, 2015)

This bill would require or request, as applicable, that the policies of each segment of public postsecondary education be updated and adopted to also ensure continued participation in GI Bill education benefits, as defined. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute. Existing law requires the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and requests the University of California, to update and adopt policies no later than July 1, 2015, regarding tuition rates for eligible veterans and their eligible dependents to ensure conformity to, and compliance with, the federal Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014. (*STATUS: Committee on Veterans Affairs*)

#### 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: Assembly Higher Ed Committee*)

AB421 (Calderon) **Community colleges: veterans counselor**

This bill would require the governing board of a community college district to provide in each college within the district a veterans counselor. The bill would also require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to adopt regulations to establish and maintain minimum qualifications for veterans counselors. By requiring community colleges to have a veterans counselor, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions. *(STATUS: Assembly Higher Education Committee)* **Note: Calderon plans to amend to include training opportunities for counselors.**

AB1361 (Burke) **Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program: veterans**

This bill would provide that the requirement that a student not be 28 years or older by December 31 of the award year, would not apply to a former member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined, who was seeking a Cal Grant A or B award under this provision, unless he or she received a dishonorable or bad conduct discharge. *(STATUS: Pending Referral)*

AB1401 (Baker) **Veterans: student financial aid**

Prior law, in effect until January 1, 2012, requested the Office of the Adjutant General to make copies of the enrollment fee waiver application of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available to each member of the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia not having a baccalaureate degree. This bill would reinstate these provisions. *(STATUS: Pending Referral)*

## **CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT**

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: Assembly Higher Ed Committee)*

AB542 (Wilk) **Community colleges: early and middle college high schools**

This bill would except from the low enrollment priority requirement a student attending an early college high school if the student is seeking to enroll in a community college course that is required for the student's early college high school program. This bill would provide that the authorization for a community college district to include high school pupils who attend a community college as special part-time or full-time students in its report of full-time equivalent students does not apply to a student attending a middle college high school or early college high school if the student is enrolled in a community college course that is required for the student's middle college or early college high school program. *(STATUS: Assembly Higher Ed Committee)*

AB889 (Chang) **Concurrent enrollment in secondary school and community college**

This bill would authorize the governing board of a school district to authorize a pupil to attend a community college during any session or term as a special part-time or full-time student and to undertake one or more STEM courses, if that pupil has exhausted all opportunities to enroll in an equivalent course at the high school of attendance, or at an adult education program, continuation school, regional occupational center or program, or any other program offered by that school district. *(STATUS: Pending referral)*

## **CAMPUS SAFETY**

### **AB677 (Dodd) School safety: door locks**

This bill would provide that, when construction or modernization projects are undertaken at a campus or facility within its jurisdiction, the governing board of each campus of the California Community Colleges and the Trustees of the California State University shall, and the Regents of the University of California are requested to, equip classrooms, offices, or other rooms where students and school staff gather with locking mechanisms, commonly known as classroom function locks, that allow the doors to be locked from the inside or equip these doors with the best alternative technology that accomplishes the same result. *(STATUS: Pending referral)* **NOTE: No state funding is allocated for these changes. Cost issues derailed an earlier version of this bill.**

### **AB767 (Santiago) Community colleges; emergency preparedness standards**

This bill would require the chancellor to update these emergency preparedness standards by January 1, 2017, and every 5 years thereafter, and consider including an active shooter response plan, as specified. *(Pending referral)*

### **AB969 (Williams) Community college districts: removal, suspension, or expulsion**

This bill would prohibit a community college student from being removed, suspended, or expelled unless the conduct for which the student is disciplined is related to college activity or attendance, or is conduct that threatens the safety of students or the public, whether that conduct occurs on or off campus. Existing law prohibits a community college student from being removed, suspended, or expelled unless the conduct for which the student is disciplined is related to college activity or attendance. This bill would expand a district's authorization, to either deny enrollment, permit enrollment, or permit conditional enrollment, to include an individual who has been suspended for a sexual assault or sexual battery offense from another community college district, as specified. The bill would also authorize a community college district to require a student seeking admission to inform the community college district if he or she has been previously suspended from a community college in the state for rape, sexual assault, or sexual battery. *(STATUS: Pending referral)*

### **SB691 (Morrell) Postsecondary education: student code of conduct: testing**

This bill would require the trustees and the board of governors, and would request the regents, to do all of the following regarding the respective segment's student code of conduct: (a) make it available to prospective students before enrollment, (b) develop a method of testing prospective students' knowledge of it before, or as a condition of, enrollment, and (c) set a standard for a prospective student to demonstrate proficient knowledge of it before beginning classes. The bill would require the trustees, and urge the regents and each community college district, to require each student to demonstrate proficient knowledge of the applicable code of conduct before the student begins classes. *(STATUS: Pending referral)*

### **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: Senate Education Committee)*

## **FACULTY**

### **AB1010 (Medina) Community colleges: part-time, temporary employees**

This bill would urge community college districts without a collective bargaining agreement with part-time, temporary faculty in effect as of January 1, 2016, to commence negotiations with the exclusive representatives for part-time, temporary faculty regarding the terms and conditions required by the bill on or after January 1, 2016. The bill would require community college districts with a collective bargaining agreement in effect as of January 1, 2016, to comply with the provisions of the bill as part of any successor negotiations. The bill would specify minimum standards for the treatment of part-time, temporary faculty to be met by community college collective bargaining agreements negotiated on or after January 1, 2016. *(STATUS: Pending referral)*

**SB373 (Pan) California Community Colleges: overload assignments and full-time faculty percentage**

This bill would require community college districts to report to the board of governors, by March 31, 2016, the total number of full-time equivalent faculty (FTEF) positions staffed by faculty teaching overload assignments during the period July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015, inclusive.

Effective July 1, 2016, the bill would require that reported number to become that district's maximum allowable number of FTEF positions that may be staffed by faculty teaching overload assignments until the district's full-time faculty percentage is greater than or equal to 75%. Upon reaching the 75% threshold, the bill would require a district to maintain a full-time faculty percentage of 75% or higher, or not exceed the district's previously calculated maximum allowable number of FTEF positions that may be staffed by faculty teaching overload assignments.

This bill would prohibit a district from assigning a person hired as a contract faculty member after July 1, 2016, to teach any overload assignment in excess of the equivalent of a full-time teaching load until the person achieves tenured status as a full-time faculty member.

*More information can be found on these bills at [www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov)*