

Government Relations Update

April 1, 2016

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Bills of Interest – 2016 California Legislative Session

AB1594 (McCarty) **Public postsecondary education: prohibition of using tobacco and smoking on campuses**

This bill would, beginning January 1, 2018, prohibit smoking and the use of a tobacco product, including, but not limited to, an e-cigarette, on a campus of the California State University or the California Community Colleges. The bill would authorize the governing bodies of the California State University and each community college district to set standards for the enforcement of that prohibition. The bill would authorize the campuses to conduct a positive educational campaign to increase the awareness of a tobacco- and smoke-free policy. The bill would authorize the enforcement of this prohibition by a fine, not to exceed \$100, as specified.

Note: Has been amended twice since passing out of Higher Education Committee and now in Appropriations Committee.

AB1721 (Medina) **Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program**

This bill, sponsored by the Chancellor's Office, would raise the amount of the maximum award for access costs under the Cal Grant B program to \$3,000. This bill would provide that an applicant for an award under the California Community College Transfer Entitlement Program may not be 31 years of age or older by December 31 of the award year. Under existing law, no more than a total of 25,750 Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards may be granted annually. This bill would raise that limit to 30,000.

Note: Headed to Higher Education Committee on April 12. Letter of support requested by Chancellor's Office.

AB1778 (Quirk) **Postsecondary education: sexual assault and sexual violence training**

This bill would require community college, CSU and UC institutions, in order to receive state funds for student financial assistance, to conduct annual training of their respective employees, in addition to the training described above, on the employee's obligations in responding to and reporting incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking involving students.

Note: Passed out of Higher Education Committee and now in Appropriations Committee. Chancellor's Office is looking at cost implications, which are likely to be significant.

AB1892 (Medina) **Student financial aid: Cal Grant C awards**

This Chancellor's Office-sponsored bill, among other things, would (1) rename these awards the Competitive Cal Grant C awards, (2) set the maximum Competitive Cal Grant C award amount at \$2,462 for tuition and fees and \$547 for certain other costs, (3) establish an additional Competitive Cal Grant C award in an annual amount not to exceed \$2,462 for community college students for occupational and technical training to cover access costs, training-related costs, and tuition and fees, (4) require the commission, instead of the Legislative Analyst's Office, to submit a report on the outcome of the Competitive Cal Grant C program on or before April 1, 2017, and on or before April 1 of each odd-numbered year thereafter, and (5) establish a Cal Grant C Entitlement award for access costs for community college students who are enrolled in a for-credit certificate or credential instructional program that is less than one academic year in length and that is an occupational or technical training program identified by the commission, as specified.

Note: Headed to Higher Education Committee on April 12. Letter of support requested by Chancellor's Office.

AB2069 (Medina) Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012

This bill would require metrics to include the percentage of part-time faculty that are required to hold office hours per full-time equivalent students. Existing law, the Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012, requires participating community college districts to establish and maintain institutional research to evaluate the effectiveness of the program and other programs designed to facilitate students' completion of educational goals and courses of study.

AB2364 (Holden) Public postsecondary education: exemption from nonresident tuition

This bill would exempt a student, other than a nonimmigrant alien, as defined, from paying nonresident tuition at the California State University and the California Community Colleges if that student is currently a California high school student enrolled in a concurrent enrollment or dual enrollment program.

Note: Assembly Higher Education Committee Hearing is scheduled April 12

SB1314 (Block) Cal Grant A Entitlement Program

This bill would specify that community college students participating in specified baccalaureate degree programs who also satisfy the eligibility requirements for the Cal Grant A entitlement award shall receive an award.

Note: Passed out of Senate Education Committee.

SB1359 (Block) Public postsecondary education: education materials: textbooks

This bill would require each campus of the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and would request each campus of the University of California, to identify in each published schedule of classes, as defined, the estimated total cost of required textbooks and other required educational materials for each course offered by the campus. By imposing new duties on community college districts, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Note: This bill was gutted and amended. Chancellor's office requests feedback.

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