

# State Policy and Advocacy Update

## STATE ADVOCACY OVERVIEW

Over the past several weeks, the Legislature has reconsidered legislation introduced last year (known as two-year bills) and introduced hundreds of new bills. The bill introduction deadline is February 18<sup>th</sup>, at which point the Assembly and Senate will begin conducting policy committee hearings to consider legislation. Except under special circumstances, all bills must be in print for at least 30 days before they can be acted upon.

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, the Department of Finance released statutory language necessary to carry out the provisions of the Governor's proposed budget. Known as budget trailer bills, these proposals advance the Chancellor's Office advocacy priorities in several ways:

- Allocation of one-time funding for the implementation of transfer reform efforts (AB 928) and common course numbering (AB 1111). Trailer bill language includes specific examples on how that funding may be used.
- Expansion of the NextUp program from 20 to 30 community college districts.
- Extension of the Economic Workforce and Development Program from January 1, 2023, to January 1, 2028.
- Elimination of the special admit cap and sunset date for the College and Career Access Pathways Program.

## STATE LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

To date, we have identified 77 bills that have an impact on higher education or the Chancellor's Office. Of these bills, 41 are classified at Tier 1 and most likely to have a direct impact on the California Community Colleges (CCCs), our faculty, and students. A full Legislative Matrix and a list of all Tier 1 bills can be found by visiting the [State Relations page on the Chancellor's Office website](http://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Government-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation). ([www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Government-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation](http://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Government-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation)).

Since the last Consultation Council meeting in January, the Chancellor's Office has taken a **Support** position on AB 288 (related to scholarship displacement) and a **Support** position on AB 1232 (related to nonresident tuition). Overall, we have a **Support** position on seven bills and an **Oppose** position on one bill. As part of this update, we include an analysis of AB 102 (related to dual enrollment) and AB 1705 (related to equitable placement).

The following policy positions are in alignment with the 2022 Legislative Guiding Principles, which authorizes the Chancellor's Office to adopt official positions on legislation if it meets the goals established in the *Vision for Success*, advances the priorities established in the 2022-23 Students First Budget and Legislative Proposal, and is consistent with Board of Governors policy. A summary of how these bills are aligned to the Legislative Principles is included as part of this update.

For additional details on bills, visit the [Legislative Counsel's website](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/) (leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/).

## NEW BILLS WITH A POLICY POSITION

### AB 288 (Calderon) California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act of 2021.

Would prohibit each institution of higher education from reducing certain students' institution-based financial aid award below their financial need beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle:* **Financial Aid.** Support legislation that increases financial aid available to help community college students cover the total costs of college success, removes eligibility barriers to accessing financial aid for disproportionately impacted students, and provides adequate resources to college financial aid offices to support students.

### AB 1232 (McCarty) Nonresident tuition fees: English as a second language courses.

Would create a nonresident tuition exemption for recent immigrants, refugees, and asylees who have settled in California, resided in the state for less than one year, and enrolled in credit ESL courses.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle:* **Special Student Populations.** Support legislation that allows colleges to provide educational opportunities to historically underrepresented populations outlined in Student Equity Plans, such as undocumented, first-generation, low-income, foster youth, veterans, justice-involved students, homeless students, and students with disabilities.

## OTHER BILLS WITH A POLICY POSITION

### AB 75 (O'Donnell) Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2022.

This bond bill, if approved by voters during an unspecified statewide election in 2022, would provide \$12 billion to construct and modernize K-14 education facilities. This bill includes an urgency statute.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle: **Facilities.*** Support legislation that provides adequate resources and authority for the system to meet facility needs, including student housing, as outlined in the Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan and System Budget Request.

### **AB 102 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.**

Would remove the sunset date of January 1, 2027, for the College and Career Access Pathway (CCAP) program and make it a permanent program.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle: **Dual Enrollment.*** Support legislation that reduces unnecessary barriers and increases dual enrollment opportunities for historically underserved students.

### **AB 1187 (Irwin) Community colleges: tutoring.**

Would provide that supervised tutoring for all credit and noncredit courses, as authorized pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board of Governors by July 31, 2023, is eligible for state apportionment.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle: **Access.*** Support efforts that remove barriers to college access and expands opportunity (e.g., standardized testing, admissions, placement practices).

### **AB 1432 (Low) California Online Community College.**

Would add a sunset date to provisions that authorize the creation of Calbright. Specifically, this bill would provide that the California Online Community College Act is inoperative at the end of the 2022–23 academic year, and the Act is repealed as of January 1, 2024.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

*Position:* **Oppose**

*Principle: **Single District Legislation.*** Maintain neutrality around district-specific legislation *unless* it affects or diverges resources allocated to all districts or deviates from the mission of the California Community Colleges.

### **SB 22 (Glazer) Public Preschool, K–12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2022.**

This bond bill, if approved by voters during an unspecified statewide election in 2022, would provide \$2 billion for the California Community Colleges to construct and modernize education facilities.

*Status:* Referred to the Assembly Education Committee.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle: **Facilities.*** Support legislation that provides adequate resources and authority for the system to meet facility needs, including student housing, as outlined in the Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan and System Budget Request.

### **SB 641 (Skinner) CalFresh for College Students Act.**

Would require the Department of Social Services to convene a workgroup that would submit a legislative report on how to improve the CalFresh application process for college students.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

*Position:* **Support**

*Principle: **Basic Needs.*** Support legislation that increases access to services and programs that address students' basic needs, including but not limited to, food insecurity, housing and homelessness, health care, and mental health.

## **TWO-YEAR BILLS UNDER REVIEW**

### **AB 295 (Jones-Sawyer) Public postsecondary education: pilot program for free cost of attendance.**

Would establish a working group with specified higher education representatives to consider the creation of a pilot program that would cover the total cost of attending postsecondary education in California.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

### **AB 421 (Ward) Career development and college preparation courses.**

Would require the Board of Governors to adopt regulations, no later than May 31, 2022, requiring the accounting of students enrolled in career development and college preparation courses to be conducted by positive attendance count or on a census date basis.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Inactive File.

### **AB 595 (Medina) University of California and California State University: student eligibility policy.**

Would require the CSU, and request the UC, before adding any changes in student eligibility policy that affects students of that segment, to engage in a multi-step process prior to making said change.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

### **AB 778 (E. Garcia) Purchase of California-grown agricultural food products.**

Would require all California state-owned or state-run institutions, including public universities and colleges and school districts, to only purchase agricultural products grown in California unless the product is not available from an in-state source.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Committee on Governmental Organization.

**AB 1106 (Cervantes) Employment Training Panel: pilot program: employment training needs.**

Would require the Employment Training Panel to establish a pilot program to serve the employment training needs of small businesses and strengthen the linkages between higher education institutions and employers.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**AB 1290 (Lee) Student Aid Commission.**

Would expand the Student Aid Commission to include four student members, one from each of the following: UC, CSU, CCCs and a California private postsecondary educational institution.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

**AB 1467 (Cervantes) Student safety: sexual assault procedures and protocols.**

Would require sexual assault counselors to be independent from the Title IX office and be appointed based on a demonstrated ability to effectively provide sexual violence victim services and response.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

**AB 1491 (McCarty) Adult education: consortia: carryover of allocated funds.**

Would prohibit a member of an adult education consortium and the consortium itself from carrying over more than 15% of its allocation from the immediately prior fiscal year and authorize the consortium to reduce the annual allocation for a member due to noncompliance.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

**AB 1505 (Rodriguez) Full-time faculty obligation number.**

Would require the Board of Governors to adopt regulations that require the Fall 2023 full-time faculty obligation for each community college district to be set to the actual full-time faculty number reported for Fall 2022 and annually adjusted pursuant to these regulations.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

**SB 20 (Dodd) Student eligibility for CalFresh benefits.**

Would require the California Student Aid Commission to notify California College Promise Grant students that they may also be eligible for CalFresh benefits.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**SB 367 (Hurtado) Opioid overdose reversal medication.**

Would require each public higher education institution to provide educational and preventive information regarding opioid overdose as part of established campus orientations and require each campus health center to apply to use the statewide standing order issued by the State Public Health Officer to distribute dosages of opioid reversal medication.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**NEWLY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION UNDER REVIEW****AB 1602 (McCarty) California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022.**

Would provide zero-interest loans to qualifying applicants of the UC, CSU, and the CCC for the purpose of constructing affordable student, faculty, and staff housing.

*Status:* Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

**AB 1606 (Irwin) Veterans: waiver of mandatory systemwide tuition and fees.**

Would prohibit higher education institutions from charging mandatory systemwide tuition or fees to specified students who apply for a fee waiver, including the spouse or unmarried surviving spouse of any military veteran who has a service-connected disability, been killed in service, or died due to a service-connected disability.

*Status:* Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

**AB 1671 (Patterson) California Ban on Scholarship Displacement for Foster Youth Act of 2022.**

Would prohibit public and private higher education institutions from reducing an institution-based financial aid award below the financial need of an undergraduate student who is a current or former foster youth and a California resident.

*Status:* Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

**AB 1691 (Medina) Classified School and Community College Employee Summer Assistance Programs.**

Would authorize classified employees of a participating community college district meeting certain requirements to withhold an amount from their monthly paycheck during an academic year to be paid out during the summer recess period.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**AB 1705 (Irwin) Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012: matriculation: assessment.**

This clean-up bill on equitable placement clarifies that community colleges are responsible for placing **and enrolling** students into transfer-level English and math courses and prohibits colleges from requiring students to enroll in pre-transfer level English or math coursework, except under very limited circumstances.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**AB 1712 (Medina) Campus climate: sexual misconduct: workgroup: survey.**

Would require the CCCs, CSU, and UC to convene a campus climate and sexual misconduct workgroup, develop a campus climate and sexual misconduct survey, provide the survey to students beginning on January 1, 2024, and every three years thereafter, and report the results to the governing board of each institution.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**AB 1719 (Ward) Teacher Housing Act of 2016: faculty and community college district employees.**

Would expand the Teacher Housing Act of 2016 to include housing for faculty and community college district employees and specify that a district may allow current or former foster youth to occupy housing created through the program.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**AB 1733 (Quirk) State bodies: open meetings.**

Would require all open meetings to have options for teleconference participation, allow for the use of teleconference in closed sessions, and remove existing provisions of the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act that require each teleconference location to be identified in the notice and agenda and accessible to the public. This bill includes an urgency statute.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**AB 1736 (Choi) Community colleges: student government.**

Would allow community college students to serve as an officer in student government if they are a disabled or noncredit student enrolled in a certain number of clock hours per term.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

**AB 1746 (Medina) Cal Grant Reform Act.**

Would revise and recast the provisions establishing and governing the existing Cal Grant Program into a new Cal Grant 2 and Cal Grant 4 program, expand eligibility to be



consistent with Pell Grant income eligibility, and include an inflationary increase to community college awards.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

### **AB 1752 (Santiago) Community colleges: part-time employees.**

Would require persons who are employed to teach adult or community college classes part-time to receive compensation in at least an amount that bears the same ratio to the amount provided to full-time employees with comparable duties relative to time spent.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

### **AB 1764 (Medina) Student housing: survey.**

Would require the CCCs, UC, and CSU to collect data on student housing insecurity at each of their respective campuses and submit a report to the Legislature on or before October 15, 2023. This bill also exempts community college housing projects from the Field's Act.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Assembly.

### **SB 851 (Portantino) Cal Grant Program: independent institutions of higher education.**

Would, commencing with the 2022-23 award year, restructure the formula for determining the maximum Cal Grant award for independent institutions of higher education, conditioned on the achievement of associate degree for transfer (ADT) targets, and expand Cal Grant awards to students attending those institutions.

*Status:* Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

### **SB 874 (Cortese) Classified school district and community college employees: probation: promotion.**

Would require that, in a community college district that has adopted a merit system, a permanent employee who accepts a promotion but fails to complete the probationary period for that classification must remain in the position from which the employee was originally promoted.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

### **SB 885 (Laird) Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program.**

Would expand the NextUp program by removing the 20 community college district limit and make conforming changes.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.



## **SB 893 (Becker) San Mateo County Community College District: California College Promise.**

Would authorize the San Mateo County Community College District to charge students an enrollment fee of less than \$46 per unit per semester and authorize the district to use existing funds for the implementation of the California College Promise.

*Status:* Pending referral in the Senate.

### **ADVOCATES**

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