State Policy and Advocacy Update

(Provided by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. Information current as of March 2, 2023).

STATE ADVOCACY OVERVIEW

In a time of fiscal uncertainty, the Chancellor's Office remains committed to leveraging prior year investments to bolster the educational opportunities available to our students while limiting the number of new programs and initiatives that colleges are responsible for fulfilling. We believe this prudent approach will not only strengthen our fiscal resiliency in the face of slow economic growth but will allow us to focus on the programs and services most likely to move the needle towards equitable student outcomes.

With the start of the first year of a two-year legislative session in full swing, the Chancellor's Office continues to meet with and engage legislative members and stakeholders regarding our advocacy priorities for the 2023 legislative year. Our 2023 legislative priorities were brought before Consultation Council in summer 2022 and approved by our Board of Governors in September 2022 and they include three sponsored bills on Assembly Bill 540 transfer students, compensation for Board of Governors student members, and Economic and Workforce Development program modernization. At the January Board of Governors meeting, the Chancellor's Office presented its 2023 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* and *Governor's Roadmap for the Future*, advances the priorities established in the annual System Budget and Legislative Request, and is supported by our Board of Governors. A copy of the legislative principles can be found by visiting January Board Items. (go.boarddocs.com/ca/cccchan/Board.nsf/files/CMZNQE60FA2F/\$file/2023-legislative-guiding-principles-a11y.pdf).

STATE LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

The deadline for the Legislature to introduce bills was February 17th. As of this writing, the Chancellor's Office has identified 207 Assembly Bills (AB) and Senate Bills (SB) that have an impact on higher education or the Chancellor's Office. Of these bills, 76 are classified at Tier 1 and most likely to have a direct impact on the California Community Colleges (CCCs), our faculty, and students. This report includes a list of all Tier 1 bills we are monitoring and a breakdown of proposed positions.

At the time of this writing, we are presenting seven bills with a **Support** position, one bill with a **Support if Amended** position, and one bill with an **Oppose Unless Amended** position. These positions are in alignment with the 2023 Legislative Guiding Principles.

A full Legislative Matrix and a list of all Tier 1 bills can be found by visiting the <u>State Relations page on the Chancellor's Office website</u>. (cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Governmental-Relations/policy-and-advocacy/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation). For additional details on bills, visit the <u>Legislative Counsel's website</u> (leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/).

SPONSORED LEGISLATION

AB 680 (B. Rubio) Streamlining Transfer Pathways for AB 540 Students.

Would allow students who complete 60 units or an associate degree for transfer at a CCC to satisfy certain requirements for a nonresident tuition exemption under AB 540 (Firebaugh, 2001).

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1370 (Ta) California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Program Modernization.

Would modernize the Economic and Workforce Development Program to prioritize equitable student outcomes, work-based learning, and career and economic mobility.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1542 (M. Fong) Equitable Compensation for Student Board of Governors Members.

Would increase the compensation of the two student members serving on the Board of Governors from \$100 per meeting to \$4,000 per semester.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

NEW BILLS WITH A SUPPORT POLICY POSITION

Analyses for these bills can be found in the supplemental attachment: Chancellor's Office Analyses on Legislation with a Position

- AB 320 (Lee) California Student Aid Commission (CSAC).
- AB 358 (Addis) Community college districts: student housing.
- AB 359 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnerships.
- AB 610 (Holden) Youth Transit Pass Pilot Program: free youth transit passes.
- AB 1540 (M. Fong) Nonresident tuition: exemption.
- AB 1541 (M. Fong) Community colleges: governing board membership: student members.
- AB 1543 (M. Fong) Community colleges: student representation fees.

NEW BILLS WITH A SUPPORT IF AMENDED POLICY POSITION

Analyses for these bills can be found in the supplemental attachment: Chancellor's Office Analyses on Legislation with a Position

• SB 28 (Glazer) Public Preschool, K–12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2024.

NEW BILLS WITH AN OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED POLICY POSITION

An analysis for this bill can be found in the supplemental attachment: Chancellor's Office Analyses on Legislation with a Position

• SB 629 (Cortese) Community colleges: West Valley-Mission Community College District.

OTHER HIGH-PRIORITY LEGISLATION UNDER REVIEW

AB 25 (McCarty) Postsecondary education: debt-free college.

States the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would establish a debtfree college system.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 26 (M. Fong) Personal Income Tax Law: exclusion: federal student loan debt relief plan.

Would exclude from an individual's gross income, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, any amount of qualified student loan debt that is discharged under President Biden's federal student loan debt relief plan.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 91 (Alvarez) Nonresident tuition exemption: San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association (SDICCA).

Would, until July 1, 2028, authorize a SDICCA college located within 25 miles of the California-Mexico border to exempt, from the payment of nonresident tuition, a low-income student who is a resident of Mexico, registers for lower division courses, and has residence within 45 miles of the California-Mexico border. This bill would also authorize each participating SDICCA college to claim apportionment for up to 200 full-time equivalent students (FTES) annually.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 247 (Muratsuchi) Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024.

This bond bill, if enacted by voters during an unspecified 2024 statewide election, would provide an unspecified amount for the CCCs to construct and modernize educational facilities.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 252 (Holden) The College Athlete Protection Act.

Would require each institution of higher education to provide notifications related to Title IX rights to athletes and establish the College Athlete Protection Program in CDE to regulate athletic programs.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 255 (Alanis) Priority registration for first responders.

Would require the CSU and CCCs, and request the UC, to grant priority registration to first responders.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 260 (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: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 263 (Jones-Sawyer) Pilot program for free cost of education: working group.

Would require CSAC to convene a working group with specified higher education representatives to create a pilot program that would cover the total cost of postsecondary education in California.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 264 (Ting) Community colleges: Lunar New Year holiday.

Would authorize a community college district, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding, to replace closing on Lincoln Day or Washington Day with Lunar New Year.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 274 (Bryan) California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKS): CalFresh: eligibility: income exclusions.

Would exempt any grant, award, scholarship, loan, or fellowship benefit provided to any member for educational purposes from consideration as income for purposes of determining CalWORKs eligibility or grant amounts.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee.

AB 290 (Hoover) Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program: Strong Workforce Program.

Would consolidate specified K-12 career technical education programs, increase ongoing funding for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant program to \$450 million per year, and delete authorization for the K-12 Strong Workforce Program.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 299 (Holden) Hazing: educational institutions: civil liability.

Would establish civil liability for an educational institution if the institution has direct involvement in, knew, or should have known of, the dangerous hazing practices of a student organization affiliated with the educational institution.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

AB 311 (Santiago) California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits.

Would remove the age limitation of the California Food Assistance Program and make any individual eligible for the program if their immigration status is the sole basis for their ineligibility for CalFresh benefits.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee.

AB 322 (Mathis) Veteran and California National Guard Supplemental Orientation Act of 2023.

Would require, commencing by the 2025–26 academic year, the CSU and CCCs, and the UC if adopted by a resolution, to develop and include within first-year student orientation a supplemental module of services and resources available for students who are veterans.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 368 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.

This spot bill would make nonsubstantive changes to the CCAP program.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 376 (Villapudua) Cal Grant C: driver training programs: commercial motor vehicles.

Would authorize a Cal Grant C award to be used for entry-level driver training programs of less than four months that comply with specified driver training regulations related to commercial motor vehicles.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 377 (Muratsuchi) Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program: Strong Workforce Program.

Would consolidate specified K-12 career technical education programs, increase ongoing funding for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant program to \$450 million per year, and delete authorization for the K-12 Strong Workforce Program.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 395 (Reyes) Community colleges: matriculation: assessment.

This spot bill states the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation relating to student matriculation and assessment at the CCCs.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 456 (Maienschein) Campus mental health hotlines.

Would require each campus of the CSU and CCCs and would request the UC to establish a campus mental health hotline for students to access mental health services remotely that operates during working hours. This bill would also authorize a campus to utilize text

hotlines or online messaging platforms offered by the campus if a verbal hotline cannot be established.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 458 (Jones-Sawyer) Modern policing degree program.

This spot bill would extend the date for the Chancellor's Office to submit its recommendations on a modern policing degree program from June 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 461 (Ramos) Student safety: fentanyl test strips.

Would require community college districts and CSU campuses to stock and distribute fentanyl test strips, provide information about the use and location of fentanyl test strips as part of campus orientations, and notify students of the presence and location of fentanyl test strips.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 472 (Wicks) Classified school district and community college employees: compulsory leaves of absence: compensation.

Would require a classified employee placed on an involuntary leave of absence while the employee has criminal charges, an investigation, or an administrative matter pending to receive full compensation for the period of involuntary leave if the matter is resolved in favor of the employee, regardless of whether or not a merit system has been adopted.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Public Employment and Retirement Committee.

AB 506 (M. Fong) CSU: graduation requirement: ethnic studies.

Would require the CSU to collaborate with the CCCs Chancellor's Office, the CCCs Ethnic Studies Faculty Council, and the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies to develop a process for the CSU to approve community college ethnic studies courses.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 569 (Garcia) Veterans: cybersecurity apprenticeship program.

Would require, by January 1, 2025, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Technology, CCCs, and CSU to develop a cybersecurity apprenticeship program for veterans at CCCs and the CSU to receive training in and be able to enter the cybersecurity field. This bill would also require the developed program to be implemented by January 1, 2027.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.

AB 607 (Kalra) Course materials.

Would require the CCCs, CSU, and request the UC to prominently display the estimated costs of all required course materials for no less than 75% of the total number of courses on the online campus schedule.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 624 (Grayson) Disabled student services: assessments.

Would revise the intent of the Legislature relating to diagnostic assessments for students with disabilities by including costs for continuing assessments, required documentation, and individual and group assessments. This bill would also expand the purpose of the assessments to include defining specific disabilities of the student and as proof for academic or institutional accommodations.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 634 (Ward) Community colleges: career development and college preparation courses.

Would require the Board of Governors to adopt regulations, no later than May 31, 2024, 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 Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 644 (Jones-Sawyer) Campus safety: hate crime: surveys.

Would require the CCCs Chancellor's Office and the CSU Chancellor's Office, and request the UC Office of the President, to develop survey questions on campus climate related to hate crimes. This bill would require the survey questions to be submitted to the United States (U.S.) Secretary of Education for review and approval and incorporated into a specified online survey tool for campus safety.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 689 (W. Carrillo) Community colleges: registered nursing programs.

This spot bill would make nonsubstantive changes related to community college registered nursing programs.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 746 (Sanchez) Learning-Aligned Employment Program: eligibility and priority.

Would expand the Learning-Aligned Employment Program to allow all students to participate in the program and would instead require participating campuses to prioritize eligible students from underrepresented backgrounds, as defined by CSAC.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 789 (Berman) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: satisfactory academic progress.

Would require, by the start of the 2024-25 academic year and as a condition of receiving Cal Grants, institutions to develop and implement policies defining "satisfactory academic progress" in a manner that is consistent with the federal standards. This bill

would also require CCCs, CSU, and UC to annually report certain information regarding students who became ineligible to receive financial aid because they did not achieve satisfactory academic progress.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 811 (M. Fong) Credit course repetition.

Would require each community college district and the Board of Governors to establish policies and regulations for the repetition of credit courses consistent with specified guidelines.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 870 (Arambula) Public social services: benefits for students.

Would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to convene a workgroup, comprised of relevant stakeholders as needed, to share best practices, updates, challenges, or other topics related to programs and services offered by the department that may be available to college students.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee.

AB 928 (Reyes) CalFresh Data Dashboard: students.

Would require CDSS to update its CalFresh Data Dashboard on an annual basis and as additional data becomes available about access to CalFresh by students enrolled in an institution of higher education.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Human Services Committee.

AB 942 (M. Fong) Postsecondary education: sex equity.

Would provide that sexual harassment of students is a form of sex-based harassment and sex-based discrimination.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1040 (Alvarez) Community colleges: mentoring credit program.

Would require the governing board of a community college district to create a one-to-one mentoring program that matches a student over 18 years of age who receives specific training in mentoring to a youth under 18 years of age.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1096 (M. Fong) Educational instruction: language of instruction.

This spot bill would specify that English is required to be the basic language of instruction in all elementary and secondary schools only and would remove the authorization of a community college district to determine when and under what circumstances instruction may be given bilingually.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1142 (M. Fong) Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in California.

Would establish the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in California, composed of five public members with experience in postsecondary education, as the statewide postsecondary education oversight, coordination, and planning entity.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1151 (McKinnor) Community colleges: use of property for athletic activities: insurance.

This spot bill would make nonsubstantive changes to existing law requiring community college districts to obtain a certificate of insurance from a liability insurance carrier.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1173 (Ta) College and career fairs.

Would require a school district or school that chooses to hold a college or career fair to notify each community college district that has overlapping jurisdiction with the school district or school of a college or career fair the school district or school is planning to hold.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1190 (Irwin) Community colleges: part-time faculty: office hours.

Would require, beginning on July 1, 2024, each community college district to provide compensation for office hours to part-time faculty according to specified rates.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1198 (Grayson) Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz): Equity in Energy Task Force.

Would establish, within GO-Biz, the Equity in Energy Task Force with specified members, including the CCCs, to develop a comprehensive strategy aimed at addressing equity in the energy industry and increasing the participation rate of women, minorities, disabled individuals, and veteran-owned businesses, as well as individuals from disadvantaged communities.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1245 (McCarty) Community colleges: childcare providers: fee waivers.

Would require community college districts to waive the fees of a student who is employed as a childcare provider at the time of enrollment.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1255 (W. Carrillo) Teacher credentialing: ethnic studies task force.

Would require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to convene a statewide task force, composed of relevant stakeholders, including the CCCs Ethnic Studies Faculty

Council, to provide a report by September 1, 2024, with recommendations for the criteria that should be required in order to obtain a single-subject credential in ethnic studies.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1275 (Arambula) Student-run community college organizations: open meetings: teleconferences.

Would authorize the recognized statewide community college student organization and other student-run community college organizations to use teleconferencing for their meetings without having to meet specified Brown Act requirements, including identifying each teleconference location in the notice and agenda and requiring that a quorum of the student organization's members participate from a singular physical location.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1342 (M. Dahle) California College Promise: fee waiver eligibility.

Would clarify that a student who enrolls in community college, after having enrolled in community college as a special part- or full-time student or dual enrollment student, is a first-time student for purposes of receiving a fee waiver under the California College Promise Program.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1390 (McCarty) CSU and UC: graduation requirements: service learning.

This bill would, commencing with students graduating in the 2027–28 academic year, require the CSU and UC, if adopted by a resolution, to require the completion of service learning as an undergraduate graduation requirement.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1400 (Bryan) College Access Tax Credit Fund.

This spot bill states the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation relating to the College Access Tax Credit Fund.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1411 (Ta) Systemwide fee or tuition waivers: online posting or notice.

Would require each campus of CCCs and CSU, and each campus of the UC if adopted by a resolution, to post online specified information regarding the availability of systemwide fee or tuition waivers.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1524 (Lowenthal) On-campus access to drug testing devices.

Would require the CSU and community college districts to stock an adequate supply of drug testing devices at no fewer than one designated and accessible central location on each campus and post a notice of these requirements in prominent and conspicuous locations on campus.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1558 (Gallagher) Postsecondary education: safety: credible threats.

Would require each campus of the CCCs and the CSU, and request each campus of the UC, to take action after receiving a credible threat to student, faculty, or staff safety. This bill would also require each campus, after receiving a threat, to determine, through a third-party risk assessment, whether the threat is credible.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1699 (McCarty) K-14 classified employees: part-time or full-time vacancies: public postings.

Would require vacancies for part-time or full-time positions of an education employer to be open only to current regular and hourly employees before the vacancy may be posted publicly for the general public to apply. This bill would also require classified employees who work part-time assignments that equal the number of hours for a full-time assignment for the same education employer to receive the same benefits as employees who work a full-time assignment.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

AB 1745 (Soria) Veterans: waiver of mandatory systemwide tuition and fees.

Would change the income qualifications for fee waivers provided to dependents of veterans to be based on state poverty level, as defined.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

ACA 7 (Jackson) Government preferences: interventions or programs: exceptions.

This constitutional amendment would provide that, subject to approval by the Governor, the state may utilize state moneys to fund research-based, or research-informed, and culturally specific interventions or programs if those interventions or programs are established or otherwise implemented by the state for purposes of increasing the life expectancy of, improving educational outcomes for, or lifting out of poverty specific ethnic groups or marginalized genders.

Status: Pending referral in the Assembly.

SB 1 (Glazer) Personal Income Tax Law: exclusions: student loan forgiveness.

Would exclude from an individual's gross income, for taxable years between January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2026, the amount of any student loans waived, canceled, or otherwise forgiven under President Biden's federal student loan debt relief plan.

Status: Referred to the Senate Governance and Finance Committee.

SB 234 (Portantino) Opioid antagonists.

Would require all public, independent, and private postsecondary educational institutions to maintain unexpired doses of naloxone hydrochloride or any other opioid antagonist on its campus at all times and ensure that at least two employees are aware of the location of the opioid antagonist.

Status: Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

SB 245 (Hurtado) California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits.

Would remove the age limitation of the California Food Assistance Program and make any individual eligible for the program if their immigration status is the sole basis for their ineligibility for CalFresh benefits.

Status: Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee.

SB 307 (Ashby) Middle Class Scholarship Program: community colleges: current and former foster youth.

Would extend awards under the Middle Class Scholarship Program to community college students who are current or former foster youth pursuing transfer to a four-year postsecondary institution, an associate degree, an associate degree for transfer, or a community college career technical education certificate.

Status: Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

SB 433 (Cortese) Classified school and community college employees: disciplinary hearings: impartial third-party hearing officers.

Would require an impartial third-party hearing officer to determine whether sufficient cause exists for disciplinary action against a permanent employee, excluding a peace officer, unless the exclusive representative and the community college district enter into a collective bargaining agreement providing an alternative method of determining cause.

Status: Referred to the Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee.

SB 444 (Newman) Community colleges: Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement (MESA) programs.

Would encourage community colleges to develop and implement MESA programs directed at identifying students affected by social, economic, and educational disadvantages, among other specified goals.

Status: Pending referral in the Senate.

SB 467 (Portantino) Community colleges: apprenticeship or internship training programs.

Would prohibit a student from being denied admission to a community college apprenticeship or internship training program because the student uses an individual tax

identification number for purposes of the background check required by the class or program.

Status: Referred to the Senate Education Committee.

SB 521 (Smallwood-Cuevas) CalWORKS: pregnancy- or parenting-related accommodations.

Would add denial of reasonable accommodations for pregnant or parenting students to the list of conditions that may be considered good cause for excuse from participation in welfare-to-work activities under the CalWORKs program.

Status: Referred to the Senate Human Services Committee.

SB 661 (Bradford) Student Athlete Bill of Rights.

Would remove the exemption for institutions that receive less than \$10 million in annual income derived from media rights for intercollegiate athletics, thereby requiring these institutions to grant certain benefits to student athletes such as protection of athletic scholarships.

Status: Pending referral in the Senate.

SB 711 (Caballero) Community colleges: blockchain degree and certification programs: working group.

Would require the Chancellor's Office to convene, until July 1, 2026, a working group to take certain actions related to blockchain certification and degree programs at community colleges, including identifying key elements of creating a blockchain associate of arts degree program and a blockchain technical certification program. This bill would also require the working group to submit a report by July 1, 2026, outlining recommendations and guidance for the creation of blockchain certification and degree programs.

Status: Pending referral in the Senate.

ADVOCATES

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