



THE LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MAY 1, 2006

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LEAGUE BOARDS ADOPT POSITIONS ON BALLOT INITIATIVES

The CEOCCC and CCCT boards reviewed Propositions 81 (\$600 million for library bonds including up to \$25 million for joint-use projects of public education institutions including community colleges) and 82 (universal preschool for 4-year-olds supported by a tax on high-income taxpayers). Both boards voted to *support Proposition 81* and *oppose Proposition 82*; they also asked that staff prepare a one-page list of “talking points” to explain that the opposition to Proposition 82 is not against preschool education, but against the inappropriate funding mechanism which would further constrain flexibility in meeting state funding priorities.

TASK FORCE ON CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT BE ESTABLISHED

In response to concerns expressed by the CEOs, CSSOs and Trustees, the System Office will be establishing a Task Force to determine a strategy for eliminating the 5% summer limitation on high school students taking classes in community colleges. This limitation is restricting colleges from offering classes for high school students who need additional remedial and/or basic skills help, or who are having trouble passing the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE).

ALTERNATIVE CALENDAR REGULATIONS TO BE REVIEWED

At the last Consultation meeting, several groups indicated that they wished to have a review of the alternative calendar regulations for consistency. Evidently some colleges which recently applied for an alternative calendar have been treated differently from others that were formerly approved. The System Office will be reviewing these regulations to standardize their processes.

NURSING EDUCATION

SB 1309 (Scott) addresses the nursing shortage in California by: promoting high school pre-nursing health career-technical education pathways; reducing student attrition in California Community College (CCC) nursing programs; and increasing the number of nursing slots at the both the CCC and California State University (CSU). SB 1309 also promotes the recruitment and retention of CCC nursing faculty, facilitation of student and faculty clinical placements, and creates a statewide health workforce database under the auspices of the Foundation for the California Community Colleges (FCCC). Having passed the Senate Committee on Education, SB 1309 is now pending before the Senate Committee on

Appropriations. The California Nurses Association, the California Medical Association, CSU, and MALDEF support the bill.

MUNICIPAL UTILITIES CAPITAL FACILITIES FEES – ACTION NEEDED

AB 2951 (Goldberg) seeks to remove the requirement for municipal utilities to negotiate capital facilities fees with other public agencies (e.g. community colleges). Under AB 2951, municipal utilities would have the unilateral authority to impose fees to cover the cost of building, modernizing and renovating utility facilities. The requirement, adopted in 1988, to negotiate these fees with local governments ensures a measure of transparency in the process. Without this requirement, a municipal utility could impose higher rates with little information provided to the ratepayer or awareness to the public. The current process prevents community colleges and other public agencies from being the deep pocket for municipal utilities. AB 2951 means increased costs in the millions annually to community colleges, money that would otherwise be used to educate students.

The CEOCCC and CCCT boards of the League oppose AB 2951. **Community Colleges should contact the Assembly Local Government Committee (ALGC) to urge a “NO” vote. The bill will be heard May 3rd at 1:30 PM. Members of the ALGC are: Simon Salinas (Chair), Bill Emmerson (Vice Chair), Hector De La Torre, Guy Houston, Sally Lieber, Joe Nation, Lois Wolk.**

THIS MONTH’S REPORTS/UPDATES OF INTEREST

- *"Keeping California's Edge: The Growing Demand for Highly Educated Workers,"* is a new study commissioned by the Campaign for College Opportunity and researched by economists at the Applied Research Center at California State University, Sacramento. Looking forward to 2022, this study identifies growing sectors seeking highly educated workers, analyzes the economic value created by those workers and identifies the top six industries with the most at stake in our state's highly-educated, high-demand future. The report is available for download at www.collegecampaign.org.
- The League’s most current “*State Budget Update*” (attached) can be found at: <http://www.ccleague.org/leginfo/budget.asp>
- The League’s report on “*Bill of Interest*” that contains current status, League staff comments and board positions can be downloaded at: <http://www.ccleague.org/leginfo/bills/boi-042006.pdf>

UPCOMING COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES

Friday, April 28, 2006 was the last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees bills introduced in their house.

May 2nd: 1:30 p.m. – Assembly Higher Education Committee

WHERE: State Capitol, Room 437

May 3rd:

- 9:00 a.m. - Assembly Appropriations Committee
WHERE: State Capitol, Room 4202
- 9:30 a.m. – Senate Education Committee
WHERE: State Capitol, Room 4203
- 1:30 p.m. – Assembly Local Government Committee
WHERE: State Capitol, Room 127

May 8th: (upon floor adjournment). Senate Appropriations Committee

WHERE: State Capitol, Room 4203

STAFFING CHANGES

(Since June 2005, the community colleges have named 24 new CEOs, an additional 14 interim CEOs, and 7 CEOs have announced their retirement or resignation in the coming months.)

- ◆ Shirley Kelly, president of College of San Mateo since 2000, has announced that she will retire in June 2006.
- ◆ Jan Kehoe, superintendent/president of Long Beach CCD since 1997, will retire from her position this year and will become the new director of the Community College Leadership Development Institute beginning January 1, 2007.
- ◆ Casey (Kathleen) Crabill, superintendent/president of Redwoods CCD since 1999, has accepted the position of President of Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch, New Jersey, effective August 1.

Other:

- ◆ Terry Anderson is leaving her position as education policy consultant for the Senate President pro Tempore Office after 24 years of service.
- ◆ Stephen Blake, formerly chief consultant to the Master Plan committee, is the new Executive Director of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Education Excellence, which will focus on "adequate and efficient funding of K-12 education; providing qualified teachers and administrators for all students; and effective governance models." He can be reached at sblake@ose.ca.gov.