



# CAPITOL DAYS

Community College League of California

## TALKING POINTS

Since the Governor delivered his May Revise proposal, the Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees on Education have completed their work. Both houses propose additional funding for community colleges over the Governor's May Revise level:

- **Assembly:** \$160 million in additional funding
- **Senate:** \$23 million in additional funding

The budget is now in conference committee with the following members: Senators Ducheny (*Chair*), Leno, Lowenthal, Dutton, and Huff; and Assemblymembers Blumenfield (*Vice-Chair*), Skinner, Fuentes, Nielsen, and Conway.

**We are thankful for the relatively generous proposals by the Governor and Senate and Assembly leadership.**

The additional funding will assist in serving those returning from military service; improve access for students redirected from universities and first-time college students; and provide programs which improve workers' skills and benefit economy.

**Support Assembly proposal of \$128.2 million for growth that is essential for providing access during a period of high demand (i.e. increasing high school graduates, returning veterans, students redirected from four-year universities and unemployed).**

- 140,000 students were turned away in 2009-10 due to lack of resources/classes;
- community college Fall course schedules are filling up significantly earlier than in prior years;
- majority of campuses cancelled summer school or reduced class schedules forcing many students to be placed on waiting lists; and
- many first-time students (from the largest graduating class in history) are expected to be shut out due to lack of priority on waiting lists.

**Support SCA 6 (Simitian) – a constitutional amendment to lower the vote threshold for the approval of school and community college district parcel taxes from two-thirds (66.7%) to a super majority of 55%.**

Passage of this amendment would enable:

- local voters and boards to address critical priorities;
- community colleges to restore enrollment and student success programs cut due to lack of state revenues; and
- community colleges to better meet the needs of their communities and California's workforce.