



THE LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JANUARY 11, 2010

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Legislature

January 31st is the last day for the Assembly and Senate to pass 2009 bills still in the house of introduction. February 19th is the last day for 2010 bills to be introduced. Resolutions, constitutional amendments, committee bills, and emergency legislation are not subject to deadlines.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg announced that he has cut the membership of the Senate's standing committees to improve the efficiency of the legislative process and give members more time to focus on their committee work. Committee leadership will stay the same with one exception. Republican Sen. Dave Cox will replace Democratic Sen. Pat Wiggins as chair of the Local Government Committee. Democratic Sen. Christine Kehoe was appointed fill the vice chair spot previously held by Cox. On the budget subcommittee, Sen. Carol Liu has replaced current chair Sen. Gloria Romero.

Committees are as follows:

Appropriations - Kehoe (Chair), Cox (Vice Chair), Alquist, Corbett, Denham, Leno, Liu, Price, Walters, Wyland, Yee

Senate Budget Sub 1 on Education - Liu (Chair), Huff, Wright

Senate Education - Romero (Chair), Huff (Vice Chair), Alquist, Hancock, Liu, Maldonado, Price, Simitian, Wyland

Senate Local Government - Cox (Chair), Kehoe (Vice Chair), Aanestad, Price, Wiggins

Upcoming Legislative Hearings

Assembly Higher Education – January 11th

- AB 95 (Torlakson) Student Athletes: Recruiting Disclosure: Commencing January 1, 2011, within one week of personal contact with a student athlete for purposes of recruiting for a collegiate interscholastic athletic program, the collegiate athletic recruiter shall provide in writing specified information to the student athlete.
- AB 284 (Garrick) Charter School: Community College Petitions. This bill would allow community colleges to accept, and take responsibility for, up to ten charter high schools in the state.
- AB 1420 (V. Perez) California Council on Innovation and Technology and California Space Authority.
- AB 1436 (Portantino) – This bill would require live audio broadcast of BOG, CSU trustees, and CSAC.

Assembly Revenue and Taxation – January 11th

- AB 656 (Torrico) California Higher Education Endowment Corporation: Oil and Gas Severance Tax. This bill as written is anticipated to raise \$1.25 billion in annual revenue for all facets of higher education. Annually, it would generate approximately \$312 million for community colleges.

Assembly Education – January 13th

- AB 220 (Brownley) Public Education Facilities- includes intent language to K-University General Obligation Bond, with an unspecified election date and amount.

Assembly Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy – January 13th

- AB 35 (Furutani): Education: Workforce Development – This bill, which would require CPEC to develop a strategic plan for articulating education and workforce development, was approved by the Assembly Higher Education Committee on January 5th.

Senate Judiciary – January 12th

- SB 330 (Yee) Public Records Act- Auxiliary Organizations – same as SB 218 (2009)

Legislation

SB 711 (Leno) Brown Act: Closed Session and Collective Bargaining – This bill would have amended the Brown Open Meetings Act to require a local agency, before holding a closed session for the purpose of having designated representatives report on a collectively bargained agreement with represented employees, to make the agreement publicly available at least fifteen calendar days in advance of that meeting, was dropped by Senator Leno after concerns were expressed by the League and other employee organizations.

Senate Education Committee Name New Staff Director

Daniel Alvarez, Staff Director of the Senate Budget Committee, was named chief consultant and staff director for the Senate Education Committee. Danny joins the committee with vast

experience in education policy and finance, previously serving with Assembly Ways and Means and Budget Committees, with primary assignments in higher education.

Budget Update

The governor just released his proposed 2010-11 budget and, while we will get more details in briefings this afternoon and spreadsheets yet to be released, here are the initial points on the community college budget and a preliminary response. Please click on the following link for talking and major points of the proposed community college budget.

<http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3743>

Governor to Call Emergency Session for Current Budget

Governor Schwarzenegger intends to call the Legislature into emergency session to confront the current-year \$6.3 billion budget gap.

The emergency declaration, authorized by Proposition 58, requires lawmakers to act within 45 days on the Governor's budget proposal or to pass their own combination of cuts and revenue increases. There is no penalty if the Legislature fails to perform, although lawmakers are barred from adjourning or considering other issues until they act on the Governor's plan.

This timeline coincides with the confirmation of Schwarzenegger's nomination of Senate Abel Maldonado –R- (a key vote for the budget last year) as Lieutenant Governor. Maldonado will automatically become Lieutenant Governor unless the Assembly or Senate rejects his nomination before February 22nd so it is likely that the budget will be acted on prior to that date.

Fast Facts 2010

League staff has just completed *Fast Facts 2010* which will be available shortly throughout the colleges. As always, it contains comparative information on fees; data on the ethnicity, age, and gender distribution of the community college population; and a new comparison of funding for prisons vs. higher education, as well as additional "Did You Know?" facts about the colleges and our students. It will be e-mailed throughout the state this month and will be available for both the League Legislative Conference and the ACCT Federal Legislative Conference. Please click on <http://www.ccleague.org/files/public/FF2010.pdf> for the electronic version of *Fast Facts*.

Community College League of California's Legislative Conference

The Community College League of California's Legislative Conference will be held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on January 24-25th. For full details on registration and conference topics, please go to: <http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3424>

Reports

Increasing College Success: Road Map for Governors. National Governors Association, Dec 2009. <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0912INCREASINGCOLLEGESUCCESS.PDF>

This report recommends that state-run community colleges use private career colleges as a model for successful engagement of low-income students, keeping students on the path towards their educational goals, and maintaining high graduation rates. Specifically, this report contends that private career colleges provide:

- 1) A clear pathway to each program's goal and a clear timeframe;
- 2) Information systems to track progress closely, which is then used to guide students' choices;
- 3) Mandatory advising and peer cohorts that meet regularly; and
- 4) Active job placement assistance.

Staffing Changes

- Valerie Purnell is the new Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations for the Chancellor's office. Valerie will oversee the entire federal relations program and will represent the system in Washington, D.C. She was a lobbyist for UC Office of the President where she represented higher education policy issues before the State Legislature and Administration.

CEO Changes

- Dennis Harkins, director of government relations for Georgia Perimeter College, has been named president of Orange Coast College, effective January 4, 2010. He replaces Denise Whittaker who has served as interim president since the retirement of Robert Dees in July.
- Michael Burke, president of San Jose City College since March 2007, has been appointed president of Milwaukee Area Technical College, effective January 21st.