



THE LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Local Advocacy Results

The League would like to thank again the many community college representatives who responded to our call for action on legislation. Contacts to the State Legislature about the impact of legislative proposals on students and local institutions are very important. An example of successful local action was demonstrated when local districts contacted the Legislature and helped to explain the costly nature of AB 1095 (Hill): Full-Time Faculty. AB 1095 stated legislative intent that 75% of hours of credit instruction would be taught by full-time faculty by 2013. The bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee after committee analysis concluded that the bill would have cost over \$315 million. The Assembly Appropriations Committee also held ACR 31 (Ruskin), a resolution expressing legislative intent that community college districts increase their proportion of full-time faculty and provide comparable pro-rata pay and benefits to part-time faculty.

Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committee Actions

Citing the State’s severe budget crisis and the horrible decisions facing the State Legislature and Governor Schwarzenegger, the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees acted to hold many bills in their suspense files. Bills held will become 2-year bills.

Senate bills held in committee:

- SB 15 (Cedillo): Student financial aid: Members of the Armed Forces
- SB 160 (Cedillo): Student financial aid: DREAM Act
- SB 195 (Florez): Title IX: Reporting: Civil penalties for CEOs- League identified costs to local colleges
- SB 216 (Liu): Postsecondary Education: Textbooks

- SB 271 (Ducheny): Public Higher Education Facilities Bond Act
- SB 386 (Runner): Textbooks: Faculty justification of textbook decisions
- SB 574 (Hancock): Community college :Inmate Education
- SB 646 (Denham): Student financial aid: Veterans and dependents
- SB 675 (Steinberg): Energy job training: Clean Technology
- SB 738 (Hancock): Inmate Education

Senate bills passed by the committee:

- SB 248 (Oropeza): Title IX: website information
- SB 410 (Ducheny): Workforce Investment Act: Federal funding – League staff worked with EDGE partners to ensure that EDGE principles are incorporated
- SB 599 (Negrete-McLeod): Workforce Development – League worked to remove language which would have mandated that WIBs grant federal WIA funds to private for – profit schools
- SB 815 (Cogdill): Students financial aid: National Guard – Governor’s proposal

Assembly bills held in committee:

- AB 38 (Salas): Postsecondary Education: Resident classification: Veterans
- AB 78 (Portantino): Community college concurrent enrollment
- AB 216 (Beall): Public agencies: Construction claims
- AB 406 (Yamada): Classified staff professional development
- AB 551 (Furutani): Community college funding property tax
- AB 555(Portantino): Community college and K-12 concurrent enrollment partnerships: Pilot program
- AB 1089 (Villines): Public postsecondary education: Student financial aid
- AB 1095 (Hill): Community college full-time faculty
- AB 1230 (Torrice): Public postsecondary education: Online harassment policies
- AB 1382 (Niello): Performance budgets
- ACR 31 (Ruskin): Full time faculty and part-time faculty pro-rata pay and benefits

Assembly bills passed by the committee:

- AB 3 (Perez): Workforce development
- AB 48 (Portantino): Private Postsecondary Education Act
- AB 218 (Portantino): Postsecondary education accountability
- AB 385 (Block): Community college growth funding: unemployment rate
- AB 552 (Furutani): Community college career technical education financing
- AB 867 (Nava): CSU: Doctor of Nursing Practice
- AB 1008 (Block): Student assessment

Veterans' Priority Registration

SB 361 (Runner), legislation to amend existing law that gives veterans priority registration at CSU, UC, and California Community Colleges by limiting priority admission to honorably discharged veterans only, passed the Senate and is headed to Assembly Higher Education Committee. The League and System Office are supportive of the bill's intent, but seek amendments to provide priority registration for all veterans except those who have received a dishonorable discharge. Senator Runner has agreed to amend the bill in Assembly Higher Education Committee to include amendments sought by the League.

Legislature Demands College Auxiliary Organization and Non-profit Transparency

Legislators introduced SB 218 (Yee) after press accounts of scandals about the misuse of taxpayer funds involving the CSU and UC systems and foundations. The bill is co-sponsored by the California Newspaper Association and CSU Faculty Association. The bill would require community college auxiliary organizations and non-profits that run campus enterprises to comply with the California Public Records Act. SB 218 will add another layer of bureaucracy, increase compliance costs for colleges, and is unnecessary because the community colleges are now subject to Brown Act Open Meeting Law and the California Public Records Act. SB 218 is pending vote on the Senate Floor.

Fifty Percent Law

AB 581 (Torlakson) was gutted and amended to modify the 50% law by expanding the definition of expenditures for classroom instruction to include counselors and most object code 1000 expenditures. The bill would also require, commencing with the 2010-2011 fiscal year, that 52% of each district's current expense of education funds be expended for payment of classroom instructors' salaries, and would allow the BOGCCC to establish a committee to review auditing procedures of districts to ensure that they are in compliance with these requirements. Because the amendments were substantive, AB 581 was referred from the Assembly Appropriations Committee back to the Assembly Rules Committee for possible referral to the Assembly Higher Education Committee for rehearing. The bill is sponsored by the California Teachers' Association.

Parking Bill Amended

Following a League Alert, community college advocates flooded the Legislature with phone calls and letters raising concerns about SB 518 (Lowenthal) which led to removal of the provisions relating to community colleges. This bill could have increased community college parking fees for students and employees from around \$100 to \$1,100 per year and would have prohibited community colleges from using any state funds for direct or indirect costs relating to parking.

Budget Conference Committee

On May 21st, the Budget Conference Committee began having discussions with the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Department of Finance following the announcement of the Governor's May Revise. The committee will be hearing from higher education institutional representatives along with public comments on Monday, June 1st. An additional hearing for higher education is scheduled for Thursday, June 4th. The Committee is chaired by Assembly Member Noreen Evans with vice-chair Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny. Other committee members include: Senators Robert Dutton, Mark Leno, Alan Lowenthal, Mimi Walters, and Assembly Members Bob Blumenfield, Kevin DeLeon, Jim Nielsen, and Roger Niello.

Budget News

The League has created a Budget Advocacy Center webpage for information on the state budget which includes, Budget Conference Committee hearing schedules, the impact of statewide and local districts proposed cuts, cuts to community college athletics, and official documents including the Governor's proposal. Most importantly, the webpage has information on how to voice your concerns to the Legislature about the proposed cuts to community colleges.

For the most recent budget updates, please click the link below to go to the League's Budget Advocacy Center.

<http://www.ccleague.net/act>

BOG Appointments

- Manuel Baca, of Diamond Bar, has been appointed to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. He has worked at Rio Hondo College since 1982 and currently serves as a full-time, tenured faculty member teaching political science, business management and business law, a position he has held since 1997.
- Barbara Davis Lyman, of Fair Oaks, has been re-appointed to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. She has served on the Board of Governors since 2005. Davis Lyman has been a professor of sociology and psychology at Sacramento City College since 1971. She also serves as a member of the accreditation team for nine California community colleges, Faculty Association for California Colleges, National Association for the Education of Young Children and is a member of the Statewide Academic Senate Research Committee.
- Tanna Thomas, of Yuba City, has been reappointed to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. She has served on the board since 2006. Thomas currently serves as an instructional support analyst for the Yuba Community College District and has held various other positions with the District since 1976.

Staff Changes

- Dawn Lindsay, who has served as Glendale College's vice president of instructional services for two years, will take the post of interim superintendent/president on July 1st. She replaces Audre Levy who will resign in June to take a position in Texas.
- Mike Brandy, former district vice chancellor of business services at Foothill-De Anza Community College District, has been selected to serve as interim chancellor, pending confirmation of Chancellor Martha Kanter as U.S. undersecretary of education.