
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AGENDA

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee Special Meeting
Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.**

Via Zoom

<https://cccd-edu.zoom.us/j/87371757226>

1370 Adams Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA
5402 Barwood Drive, Huntington Beach, CA
15262 Stanford Lane, Huntington Beach, CA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Opportunity for Public Comment**

Members of the public have the opportunity to address the Legislative Affairs Committee on any item that has been described in this notice. Persons wishing to make comments for this purpose will be recognized at this point in the meeting. Individuals will have up to five minutes per Agenda item, and there is a 20-minute total limit per item. These time limitations may be extended by the Committee. The Committee members cannot respond to these public comments.

It is the intention of the Coast Community College District to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the Coast Community College District will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Secretary of the Board to inform us of your particular needs so that appropriate accommodations may be made.

- 4. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee**
- 5. Approval of Minutes: June 6, 2024 and August 29, 2024** (Attachments #1 and #2)
- 6. Federal Community College Legislation** (Attachment #3)
- 7. State Community College Legislation** (Attachments #3 & #4)
- 8. State Budget Activity** (Attachment #3)
- 9. Future Agenda Items**
- 10. Next Meeting Date**
- 11. Adjournment**

The Committee may take action on any item listed on this agenda. Under the Brown Act, the Public has the right to receive copies of any non-exempt public documents relating to an agenda item that are distributed to the committee members. Please contact the Office of the Board of Trustees to facilitate the distribution of these documents.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee
June 6, 2024
Via Zoom**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Lorraine Prinsky
Trustees Absent: Jerry Patterson

In Attendance:

Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor
Julie Clevenger, Director of Chancellor's Office Operations
Marlene Drinkwine, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services
Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology
Curtis Williams, OCC Educational Technology Specialist
Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs
Ricky Goetz, Secretary of the Board

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee.

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of March 28, 2024

5. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of May 2, 2024

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2024 and May 2, 2024 meetings.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Trustee Prinsky and Trustee Patterson
No: None
Absent: None

6. Federal Community College Legislation

Joseph Melo of Townsend Public Affairs provided the Federal legislative update. The House focused on the start of the Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations process and the Senate focused on border security and judicial nominations. The Administration continued efforts to push student loan forgiveness and FAFSA implementation assistance. Problems encountered with FAFSA resulted in completion rates down about 15% nationally. Community colleges have been less impacted, and the Education Department has rolled out support strategies to boost FAFSA completion.

The House Appropriations Committee considered the first FY 2025 appropriations bills. The proposed allocation for the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill is expected to result in a cut of more than 10%.

The Congressional Budget Office issued a formal estimate for the College Cost Reduction Act, which would make significant changes to the Higher Education Act and save \$185.5 billion over 10 years. Community college students stand to benefit from proposed provisions to the SAVE income dependent repayment plan.

7. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update. On May 16, the Assembly and Senate Appropriations Committee each held a hearing to consider measures that had been referred to each committee's suspense file. The Assembly Appropriations Committee considered approximately 650 bills as part of their Suspense File, and advanced roughly 75% of those measures. The Senate Appropriations Committee had approximately 320 bills on their Suspense File and advanced roughly 67% of those measures. Bills that advanced to the Assembly and Senate Floor were then quickly considered by each House, and most all were approved.

Relevant dates for the Legislature:

June 15 – Deadline for the Legislature to approve a budget bill

June 27 – Deadline to qualify measures for the November General Election ballot

July 3 – Deadline for bills to advance out of Second House policy committees

July 3 – August 4th – Legislative Summer Recess

August 16 – Deadline for bills to advance out of Second House fiscal committees

August 31 – Final recess begins on adjournment of floor session

September 30 – Last day for Governor to act on pending legislation

Mr. Elliott presented an update on the following priority legislation:

- *AB 1805 (Ta) – Academic content standards: Mendez v. Westminster School District*
This bill was approved by the Senate Education Committee (7-0) and is currently on the Senate Appropriations Committee awaiting consideration.
- *AB 1818 (Jackson) – Postsecondary education: homeless students: parking*
This bill was approved on the Assembly Floor (63-0) and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting referral to a policy committee.

- *AB 1855 (Arambula) – Open meetings: community college student body associations*
This bill passed the Senate Local Government Committee (5-2) and is currently in the Senate Education Committee awaiting a hearing.
- *AB 1891 (Weber) – Community colleges: allied health programs*
This bill was approved by the Senate Education Committee (7-0) and is currently on the Senate Appropriations Committee awaiting consideration.
- *AB 2088 (McCarty) – K-14 classified employees: part-time or full-time vacancies*
This bill was approved on the Assembly Floor (52-11) and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting referral to a policy committee.
- *AB 2104 (Soria) – Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program*
This bill was approved on the Assembly Floor (65-1) and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting referral to a policy committee.
- *AB 2277 (Wallis) – Community colleges: part-time faculty*
This bill was approved on the Assembly Floor (72-0) and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting referral to a policy committee.
- *SB 895 (Roth) – Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program*
This bill was approved on the Senate Floor (38-0) and is currently in the Assembly Higher Education Committee awaiting a hearing.
- *SB 1388 (Archuleta) – Community colleges: general fund balance*
This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the Suspense File.

8. State Budget Activity

Casey Elliott reported that on May 10, Governor Newsom released the 2024-25 State Budget May Revise that incorporated updated revenue adjustments, adjustments to January Budget proposals, and new proposals. The state needed to address a \$27.6 billion deficit this year, as well as ongoing deficits of approximately \$30 billion per year beginning in 2025. The Governor attributed the shortfall to the state's progressive tax structure that largely relies on the financial performance of high-income earners. The Legislature passed an Early Action Budget Package in April that reduced the size of the budget shortfall by approximately \$17.3 billion. The May Revise estimated an additional \$7.0 billion reduction in revenues bringing the deficit to \$27.6 billion.

The May Revise maintains the Governor's Budget withdrawal of approximately \$12.2 billion from the Budget Stabilization Account, as well as \$900 million from the Safety Net Reserve over two years. Significant reductions in funding included the Middle-Class Scholarship Program, California Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Housing Unit Deactivations, and Ongoing Reductions to State Operations. Additional and adjusted support from revenue sources and borrowing internally from special funds included Net Operating Loss Suspension and Limit Credit to \$5 Million and Additional Managed Care Organization Tax.

Impacts relative to community colleges were a decrease in proposition 98 funding, increases the proposed withdrawal amounts from the Public School System Stabilization Account, increase in the proposed COLA to 1.07%, the Hold Harmless to be reduced by \$188.8 million, and various changes to the sources of funding within the Student Centered Funding Formula.

Senate and Assembly leadership released their outline of a joint proposed budget in response to the Governor's May Revise proposal on May 29 to serve as a basis for ongoing budget negotiations. It addressed similar deficit and reserve spending problems as outlined by the Governor.

The Joint Legislative Budget Proposal also contained the following proposals:

- Overall Prop 98 funding approximately \$1.9 billion higher than the May Revise, with some of the additional revenue going to the Prop 98 reserve,
- Restores full funding for the Middle-Class Scholarship program,
- Implements a modified Cal Grant Reform to benefit lower income students, including those at community colleges,
- Provides a one-time \$20 million allocation to community college financial aid offices with unexpected workload due to FAFSA delays and help students who are still working to complete the FAFSA.

The Legislature's Budget Plan contained proposals designed to avoid significant budget shortfalls in the future via increasing the state's rainy-day fund and creating a "Projected Surplus Temporary Holding Account" for years in which a significant budget surplus is anticipated. The proposed reforms would need to voter approval, potentially as soon as at the November General Election.

9. Future Agenda Items

No new items.

10. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Richard Goetz
Secretary of the Board

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee
August 29, 2024
Via Zoom**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Lorraine Prinsky
Trustees Absent: Jerry Patterson

In Attendance:

Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor
Julie Clevenger, Director of Chancellor's Office Operations
Marlene Drinkwine, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services
Daniela Thompson, Executive Director of Fiscal Services
Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology
Lee Gordon, OCC Academic Senate
Curtis Williams, OCC Educational Technology Specialist
Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs
Ricky Goetz, Secretary of the Board

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee.

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of June 6, 2024

Deferred

5. Federal Community College Legislation

Joseph Melo of Townsend Public Affairs provided the Federal legislative update. Congress advanced education funding bills in July before leaving for August recess. The House and Senate will return in mid-September to begin reconciling the differences between their bills and focus on passing a continuing resolution to avoid a shutdown as the September 30 deadline approaches.

The Department of Education issued a proposed rule to expand the federal TRIO program to allow Dreamers to enroll in the programs. The TRIO programs are federal outreach designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. The White House also announced an executive order that targets Hispanic-Serving Institutions. On August 1, new final regulations on Title IX promulgated by the Biden administration take effect in select states.

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved the fiscal year 2025 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies package. The House Appropriations Committee also advanced the Labor-HHS package in July. It is unlikely that any of the FY2025 spending bills will be conferenced, approved by both chambers, and signed into law by the FY2024 expiration date of September 30. There is general agreement that a continuing resolution should run until December.

6. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update. The Legislature's month-long Summer Recess began July 3, with legislators returning on August 5 to consider measures prior to the session's adjournment. Upon return, lawmakers will have over a thousand measures to consider and pass prior to the deadline on August 31. The Governor will have until September 30 to sign or veto bills. July was also the deadline for the finalization of statewide ballot initiatives California voters will consider at the November 5, 2024 General Election.

The November 2024 ballot will include the following 10 statewide ballot measures, ranging from statewide bond proposals, local rent control authority, a Proposition 47 referendum, and a statewide minimum wage increase:

- Proposition 2: Issues \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of public K-14 education facilities.
- Proposition 3: Repeals Proposition 8 and establishes a right to marry.
- Proposition 4: Issues \$10 billion in bonds to fund state and local parks, environmental protection projects, water infrastructure projects, energy projects, and flood protection projects.
- Proposition 5: Lowers the vote threshold from 66.67% to 55% for local bond measures to fund housing projects and public infrastructure.
- Proposition 6: Removes involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime from the state constitution.
- Proposition 32: Increases minimum wage to \$18.00 an hour.
- Proposition 33: Repeals the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act.
- Proposition 34: Requires health care providers to spend 98% of revenues from federal discount prescription drug program on direct patient care.
- Proposition 35: Permanently authorizes a tax on managed care organizations to fund Medi-Cal programs.
- Proposition 36: Increases drug crime and theft penalties and allows a new class of crime to be called treatment-mandated felony, which allows the offender the option to participate in drug and mental health treatment.

Relevant dates for the Legislature:

August 5th – Legislature returns to session from Legislative Summer Recess

August 16th – Deadline for bills to advance out of Second House fiscal committees

August 31st – Final recess begins on adjournment of floor session

September 30th – Last day for Governor to act on pending legislation

Mr. Elliott provided notable actions taken by the Assembly and Senate Appropriations Committees on August 15:

- AB 359 (Holden) Would make numerous changes to College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnerships for the purpose of offering or expanding dual enrollment opportunities for all students. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 810 (Friedman) Would require all institutions of higher education, as a condition of receiving state financial assistance, to implement a policy of requiring potential employees for academic, athletic, and administrative positions to disclose whether they have been the subject of a finding of sexual harassment. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 1160 (Pacheco) Would prohibit colleges from refusing to provide a diploma or certificate for a current or former student on the grounds that the student owes a debt. This bill would also place restrictions on debt collection methods used to collect institutional debt from students. Held in Committee
- AB 1575 (Irwin) Would authorize students who receive a disciplinary notification to have an adviser of their choosing and requires postsecondary education institutions to provide trainings for the aforementioned adviser. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 1577 (Low) Would require, upon request, health facilities and clinics to meet with a community college or California State University (CSU) approved nursing program and work in good faith to meet the needs of the nursing program, including adding additional clinical placement slots to accommodate the nursing program. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 1818 (Jackson) Would require the California State University (CSU) and CCCs and would request the University of California (UC), to establish a pilot program to allow overnight parking by a student attending its campus if the student uses the vehicle as housing and meets other specified conditions. Held in Committee
- AB 1885 (Addis) Would allow students receiving support under the Disabled Services and Programs for Students (DSPS) who are classified as full-time to also receive a Student Success and Completion Grant. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 1891 (Weber) Would, until January 1, 2030, authorize the usage of multi-criteria screening for admission decisions in allied health programs. Current law allows community colleges to utilize multi-criteria screening in nursing program admissions. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 1905 (Addis) Would make an employee of a public postsecondary educational institution ineligible for retreat rights if the employee is the respondent in a sexual harassment complaint and the employee is determined to have committed sexual harassment, or the employee resigned from their current position before a final

administrative decision is made. Passed to Senate Floor with clarifying amendments

- AB 2033 (Reyes) Would require, by September 1, 2025, each campus of the CCCs to apply for at least one general store or a store that sells food on campus to become an authorized retail food store under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and, if approved, ensure the store or stores accept the use of electronic benefits transfer cards. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 2048 (M.Fong) Would require the Chancellor's Office to convene a community college sexual harassment and Title IX working group to, among other things, review the policies and procedures of no less than 15 community college districts and determine if existing community college district policies and procedures regarding faculty-student and staff-student relationships and sexual harassment are adequate to prevent, detect, and address sexual harassment. Passed to Senate Floor with amendments to make it a report from the Chancellor's Office rather than a workgroup
- AB 2057 (Berman) Would remove the sunset of the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) Intersegmental Implementation Committee, also known as the AB 928 committee, and implements several of the committee's recommendations. The bill also requires the state to adopt and monitor certain goals related to closing equity gaps. Passed to Senate Floor with amendments to reduce scope
- AB 2088 (McCarty) Would require vacancies for part- and full-time classified service positions of an education employer to be offered with priority to current regular non-probationary classified employees who meet certain requirements. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 2096 (Petrie-Norris) Would allow a chief administrative officer, an officer or employee, or a student at a public institution of higher education to seek a temporary restraining order if there is a credible threat of violence made off the school campus or facility. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 2104 (Soria) Would require the Chancellor's Office to develop a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program that authorizes 15 community college districts to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 2193 (Holden) Would establish civil liability for a public or private postsecondary educational institution in cases of student hazing and also establish a rebuttable presumption that an educational institution took reasonable steps to address hazing if the institution took certain steps prior to an incident, such as having updated certain rules and regulations and having implemented a comprehensive prevention and outreach program addressing hazing. Passed to Senate Floor with amendments to clarify that provisions are not retroactive
- AB 2277 (Wallis) Would increase the number of instructional hours that a part-time community college faculty member may teach at one district from 67% to 85% of a full-time assignment. Passed to Senate Floor with clarifying amendments
- AB 2458 (Berman) Would require, before the start of the 2026–27 academic year, each CCC to implement a policy to estimate cost of attendance information for student parents, identify student parents in the campus's data management information system, and update its net price calculator to include a baseline student parent cost estimate. Passed to Senate Floor with amendments to allow use of existing data elements

- AB 2492 (Irwin) Would require, by July 1, 2026, a public postsecondary educational institution to establish and designate at least one person to fulfill the positions of confidential student advocate, confidential staff and faculty advocate, and confidential respondent services coordinator to assist students, faculty, or staff who have filed a complaint of sex discrimination, experienced sex discrimination, or are accused of sex discrimination. Held in Committee
- AB 2578 (Flora) Would allow a nursing student enrolled in an out-of-state nursing program to obtain clinical experience in California if specified conditions are met. Held in Committee
- AB 2586 (Alvarez) Would prohibit a campus of the UC, CSU, and CCCs from disqualifying a student from being eligible to apply for an employment position at the campus due to their failure to provide proof of federal work authorization, except under specified circumstances. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 2821 (Grayson) Would require the governing board of each community college district to establish a Disability Access and Compliance Training Program which includes the legal and procedural responsibility of college personnel to provide effective accommodations for disabled students. Passed to Senate Floor
- AB 2834 (Rendon) Would revise the policy preferences of the Legislature with respect to part-time community college faculty to express the preference that the names of part-time faculty be listed in the bulletin of classes offered once they are assigned to a course, rather than just the schedule of classes. Passed to Senate Floor with clarifying amendments
- AB 2901 (Aguiar-Curry) Would require school and community college districts to provide classified and academic employees at least 14 weeks of leave with full pay for pregnancy-related leaves of absence. Passed to Senate Floor with amendments to delay implementation and make contingent upon appropriation
- AB 3087 (M.Fong) Would extend the operation of the Economic and Workforce Development Program by five years, to January 1, 2030. Passed to Senate Floor
- SB 895 (Roth) Would require the Chancellor's Office to develop a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program that authorizes 15 community college districts to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Passed to Assembly Floor with amendments to limit to 10 colleges
- SB 1015 (Cortese) Would require the Nursing Education and Workforce Advisory Committee to study specified topics and to submit a report making recommendations to the Legislature regarding how approved schools of nursing or nursing programs should manage or coordinate clinical placements. Passed to Assembly Floor
- SB 1042 (Roth) Would require a health facility that offers prelicensure clinical placement slots upon the request of an approved school of nursing or an approved nursing program to meet with representatives of the school or program to discuss the clinical placement needs of the school or program. Held in Committee
- SB 1166 (Dodd) Would require the CCCs, by December 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, to submit a legislative report that provides a summation of the activities undertaken by each district and by the systemwide Title IX office to ensure campus programs and activities are free from sex discrimination. Passed to Assembly Floor with amendments to make CCC report every three years
- SB 1244 (Newman) Would authorize a community college district to enter into a CCAP partnership within the service area of another community college district if

the community college district in the service area has declined a request or has failed to take action within 60 calendar days of receiving a request. Passed to Assembly Floor

- SB 1348 (Bradford) Would establish the Designation of California Black-Serving Institutions to recognize campuses that excel at providing academic resources to Black and African American students. Passed to Assembly Floor (with amendments to refine application process)
- SB 1491 (Eggman) Would require the governing board of each community college district to designate an employee at each campus as a point of contact for the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, pansexual, transgender, gender-nonconforming, intersex, and two-spirit faculty, staff, and students. Passed to Assembly Floor

Mr. Elliott presented an update on the following priority legislation:

- *AB 1805 (Ta) – Academic content standards: Mendez v. Westminster School District*
This bill was approved on the Senate Floor (40-0).
- *AB 1818 (Jackson) – Postsecondary education: homeless students: parking*
This bill was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee on the Suspense File.
- *AB 1891 (Weber) – Community colleges: allied health programs*
This bill was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee (6-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Senate Floor.
- *AB 2088 (McCarty) – K-14 classified employees: part-time or full-time vacancies*
This bill was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee (4-3) and is awaiting consideration on the Senate Floor.
- *AB 2093 (Santiago) – California College Promise: fee waiver eligibility and funding formula*
This bill was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee (6-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Senate Floor.
- *AB 2104 (Soria) – Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program*
This bill was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee (7-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Senate Floor.
- *AB 2277 (Wallis) – Community colleges: part-time faculty*
This bill was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee (6-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Senate Floor.
- *SB 895 (Roth) – Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program*
This bill was approved by the Assembly Appropriations Committee (11-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Assembly Floor.
- *SB 1015 (Cortese) – Nursing schools and programs*
This bill was approved by the Assembly Appropriations Committee (13-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Assembly Floor.
- *SB 1042 (Roth) – General acute care hospitals: clinical placements: nursing*
This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the Suspense File.

- *SB 1244 (Newman) – Dual enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships*

This bill was approved by the Assembly Appropriations Committee (14-0) and is awaiting consideration on the Assembly Floor.

7. State Budget Activity

Casey Elliott reported that The state began the fiscal year with a \$14 billion General Fund cash balance and ended June without an outstanding loan balance. The state had a substantial cash reserve and avoided taking on new debt or successfully repaid any existing loans by the end of the fiscal year. The California State Treasury had over \$118 billion in liquid funds that were immediately accessible for use at the end of FY24. The growth of large budget reserves and cautious budgeting of state special funds and multiyear disbursement periods has transformed the state's cash position into one of strength over the last several years.

8. Future Agenda Items

No new items.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Richard Goetz
Secretary of the Board

MEMO

To: Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee

From: Townsend Public Affairs, Inc.
Casey Elliott, Vice President
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate

Date: January 16, 2025

Subject: Legislative Affairs Update

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND OUTLOOK

Legislature Commences 2025-26 Session

In early December, the California State Assembly and Senate reconvened for Organizational Session to welcome new legislators, adopt house rules, and elect their respective leadership teams. One notable change to the Standing Rules in each house is a reduction in how many bills legislators may introduce during the two-year Session. Assembly Members and Senators are now only permitted to introduce 35 bills, a reduction from the previous levels of 50 in the Assembly and 40 in the Senate, in order to allow more time for consideration of measures and improve the deliberative process. So far, approximately 140 bills, resolutions, and constitutional amendments have been introduced since the Legislature convened.

Assembly Member Robert Rivas and Senator Mike McGuire were re-elected as Assembly Speaker and Senate President pro Tempore, respectively, and both addressed their chambers kicking off their Regular and Special Sessions. Members from both houses introduced bills in the Special Session related to providing additional resources for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to pay for litigation expenses in response to federal actions, one of which appropriates \$500,000 to the Department. More details on the Special Session and funding to DOJ are expected to be included as part of the Governor's January Budget.

Assembly and Senate Committee Leadership Announced

Over the course of the last week of December and into the first days of January, the Assembly Speaker and Senate President Pro Tem made announcements of new caucus leadership, as well as to committee chairs and vice chairs for the 2025 legislative session. Given the large turnover in legislative membership as a result of the General Election, it was anticipated that there would be more turnover in committee leadership than is normal going this session.

The most significant change in committee leadership will come with the Senate Education Committee, as the previous committee chair, Senator Josh Newman, was unsuccessful in his bid



for re-election. This year the committee will be chaired by freshman Senator Sasha Renee Perez (D-Alhambra). Prior to her election to the State Senate, Perez served on the Alhambra City Council. Senator Perez has previously advocated for legislation to expand college access for students, increase financial aid to students, and increase high school students' access to coursework to prepare them for college. In addition to a new chair, the Senate Education Committee has three new members to the committee, Senator Reyes (D-San Bernardino) and freshman Senators Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo) and Senator Steven Choi (R-Irvine). The Senate Education Committee will retain the same Vice Chair, Senator Ochoa Bogh.

The Assembly Higher Education Committee will continue to be chaired by Assembly Member Mike Fong; however, the Committee has a new Vice Chair in Assembly Member Carl DeMaio (R-San Diego). Assembly Member DeMaio, who replaces Assembly Member Tri Ta as vice chair, previously served on the San Diego City Council and has had an active career in talk radio. The new Vice Chair has long been an advocate for reducing the overall size of state government and increasing accountability in state spending. The Assembly Budget Subcommittee that oversees the higher education portion of the budget will continue to be chaired by Assembly Member David Alvarez who helped advance the Assembly's higher education priorities as part of last year's budget process.

While the Senate has announced full committee membership, the Assembly has not yet released the complete roster for each of the standing committees. It is likely that the complete committee rosters will be released in January, in advance of the first meetings of each policy committee. While policy committees may meet at any time, traditionally committees will not start considering bills until a couple of weeks after the bill introduction deadline. As such, it will likely be early March before most committees begin meeting in an official capacity, with the key exception of the Budget Committees who will begin meeting in late January in order to receive information related to the Governor's Budget proposal.

November Income Tax Withholdings Come in Below Projections

Overall, for fiscal year 2024-25 Personal Income Tax (PIT) withholdings have run about even with projections, but November withholdings came in \$806 million, or about 10%, below projections. Most withholding payments are for wages and salaries, but income tax withholding payments are also due on bonuses and stock options received by employees. With a later Thanksgiving holiday week, end-of-month and holiday bonuses were remitted to the state in December as opposed to November, which could be contributing to the lackluster collection.

The drop in withholdings could drive the state's General Fund revenues down, but other revenue sources are still pending. Also, the Legislative Analyst's Office notes the collection during the week after Thanksgiving came in approximately 20% higher than the same period last year, which would in turn be reflected in this year's December collection. The Department of Finance's next state budget projections will coincide with the Governor's January Budget Proposal early next month.



PRIORITY LEGISLATION

Legislative Calendar

The Legislature met in Organizational Session on December 2nd for the purpose of convening the 2025-26 Regular Legislative Session and swearing-in members. After the Organizational Session, the Legislature recessed and will be returning on January 6th to resume the legislative session.

Below are the upcoming relevant dates for the Legislature:

January 6th – Legislature reconvenes

January 10th – Deadline for Governor to submit budget bill

January 24th – Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel

February 21st – Last day for bills to be introduced

May 2nd – Last day for fiscal bills to be passed by policy committees

AB 48 (Alvarez) – College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026

Would set forth the College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026 as a state general obligation bond act that would provide \$_____ to construct and modernize education facilities, as specified. This bond act would become operative only if approved by the voters at the _____, statewide primary election. The bill would also provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters at that election. **This bill has not yet been referred to a policy committee.**

AB 65 (Aguiar-Curry) – School and community college employees: paid disability and parental leave

Current law requires the governing board of a school district, and the governing board of a community college district, to provide for a leave of absence from duty for a certificated employee or an academic employee of the district who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, and recovery from those conditions. Current law authorizes the governing board of a school district, and the governing board of a community college district, to provide for a leave of absence from duty as it deems appropriate for a female employee in the classified service of the district who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy or convalescence following childbirth. Current law authorizes a governing board to adopt rules and regulations about leaves of absence for classified employees for these purposes, and authorizes a governing board to provide in the rules and regulations whether the leave granted shall be with or without pay. This bill would delete the latter provisions authorizing a governing board of a school district and the governing board of a community college district to adopt those rules and regulations. The bill instead would require a public school employer to, for a certificated employee or an employee in the classified service of the public school employer, and would require a community college district to, for an academic employee or an employee in the classified service of the community college district, provide up to 14 weeks of a leave of absence with specified pay benefits for an employee who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from those conditions. The bill would



authorize the paid leave to begin before and continue after childbirth if the employee is actually disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or a related condition. **This bill has not yet been referred to a policy committee.**

AB 90 (Jackson) – Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking

This bill would require the governing board of each community college district and the Chancellor of the California State University to establish a program to allow overnight parking by eligible students, and would require the governing board of each community college district, with the participation of basic needs coordinators, and the Chancellor of the California State University, with the participation of student representatives, to determine a plan of action for implementing these programs that includes, among other things, the issuance of an overnight parking permit. The bill would impose duties on basic needs coordinators related to the community college programs, including when acceptance of applications from eligible students would begin. **This bill has not yet been referred to a policy committee.**

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND OUTLOOK

Congress Passes Stopgap Funding Bill to Avoid a Government Shutdown

After weeks of intense negotiations, Congress approved a legislative package to avert a government shutdown and extend current funding levels until March 14, 2025. The bill, H.R.10545, also includes over \$100 billion in disaster relief and provisions to extend health care and agriculture programs.

Notably, the legislation excludes the White House's \$1 billion request for emergency funding to support schools and colleges affected by hurricanes Helene and Milton. Many campuses in the Carolinas are grappling with flooding, structural damage, and power outages, which higher education advocates estimate will take years to repair. This omission reflects the incoming Trump administration's focus on limiting government spending.

President-Elect Trump Previews 2nd Term Education Priorities

President-elect Donald Trump's second term begins in January, with Republicans controlling both chambers of Congress and holding a Supreme Court majority. This political alignment positions him to pursue an ambitious education agenda, including significant cuts to the Department of Education, promoting private school choice, and rolling back protections for transgender students. Linda McMahon, the incoming Secretary of Education, will be instrumental in advancing these initiatives.

President-elect Trump's proposals include:

- **Potential Reduction of the Department of Education:** While a complete dissolution is unlikely, efforts may focus on reducing federal oversight while maintaining essential functions such as Title I funding for low-income schools.
- **Private School Choice Expansion:** Building on first-term efforts, the Administration may rely on state legislation to advance school choice initiatives.



- **Rollbacks on Title IX Protections:** Plans include rescinding protections for transgender students and targeting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives.
- **Immigration Policy Impacts:** Proposals could challenge the right of undocumented students to free public education and enhance state-federal collaboration on immigration issues.

Congressman Tim Walberg Tapped to Lead Education Committee

Congressman Tim Walberg is poised to chair the House Education and the Workforce Committee in the upcoming Congress. Selected by the House Republican Steering Committee, his confirmation by the full House GOP Conference is expected. Walberg's priorities include supporting college affordability and workforce development, advancing career and technical education (CTE) including immersive technology like virtual reality, and making progress on the Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act to bolster community colleges and job training programs.

Biden Administration's Department of Education Submits Final Rules

Education Department submitted its final proposed rules on program integrity and institutional quality to the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) – a key last step before the rules are published in their final form in the Federal Register. Earlier this year, ED held several panels of negotiated rulemaking on program integrity and institutional quality issues where community colleges were represented. While the panels covered issues including cash management, state authorization and accreditation, ED only advanced proposed changes to distance education, returning of Title IV funds, and TRIO eligibility.

Upon OIRA's approval, these regulations will be published in the Federal Register. Although they cannot take effect until July 2026, institutions may have the option to implement them earlier. The incoming Trump administration may reconsider or rescind these rules, particularly those related to student debt relief.

Biden Administration Withdraws Student Debt Cancellation Proposals

The Biden administration has formally withdrawn its sweeping proposals for student debt cancellation. The decision follows legal challenges and operational concerns. Instead, the administration will focus on helping at-risk borrowers successfully return to repayment. This move marks the end of mass loan forgiveness efforts, signaling a shift in priorities as the administration's term concludes.



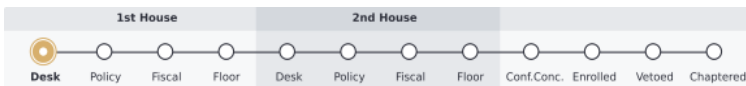
Coast Community College District

Legislative Matrix

[AB 48](#) [Alvarez \(D\)](#) [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Education finance: postsecondary education facilities: College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026.

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Tracking form

Position

Bill information

Status: 12/03/2024 - From printer. May be heard in committee January 2.

Summary: Would set forth the College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026 as a state general obligation bond act that would provide \$_____ to construct and modernize education facilities, as specified. This bond act would become operative only if approved by the voters at the _____, statewide primary election. The bill would also provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters at that election. (Based on 12/02/2024 text)

Location: 12/02/2024 - Assembly PRINT

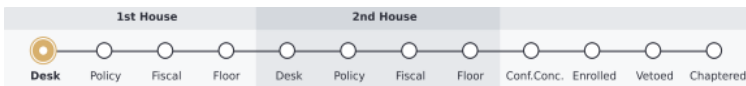
Introduced: 12/02/2024

Current Text: 12/02/2024 - Introduced

[AB 58](#) [Soria \(D\)](#) [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Postsecondary education.

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Tracking form

Position

Spot

Bill information

Status: 12/03/2024 - From printer. May be heard in committee January 2.

Summary: Current law establishes the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California, the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges,

independent institutions of higher education, as defined, and private postsecondary educational institutions, as defined, as the segments of postsecondary education in this state. This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation relating to postsecondary education. (Based on 12/02/2024 text)

Location: 12/02/2024 - Assembly PRINT

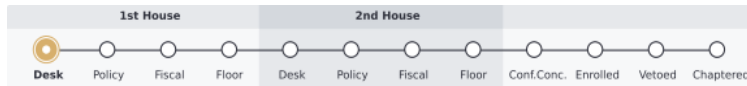
Introduced: 12/02/2024

Current Text: 12/02/2024 - Introduced

AB 65 **Aguiar-Curry (D)** **HTML** **PDF**

School and community college employees: paid disability and parental leave.

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Tracking form

Position

Bill information

Status: 01/06/2025 - Read first time.

Summary: Current law requires the governing board of a school district, and the governing board of a community college district, to provide for a leave of absence from duty for a certificated employee or an academic employee of the district who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, and recovery from those conditions. Current law authorizes the governing board of a school district, and the governing board of a community college district, to provide for a leave of absence from duty as it deems appropriate for a female employee in the classified service of the district who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy or convalescence following childbirth. Current law authorizes a governing board to adopt rules and regulations about leaves of absence for classified employees for these purposes, and authorizes a governing board to provide in the rules and regulations whether the leave granted shall be with or without pay, as provided. This bill would delete the latter provisions authorizing a governing board of a school district and the governing board of a community college district to adopt those rules and regulations. The bill instead would require a public school employer to, for a certificated employee or an employee in the classified service of the public school employer, and would require a community college district to, for an academic employee or an employee in the classified service of the community college district, provide up to 14 weeks of a leave of absence with specified pay benefits for an employee who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from those conditions, as provided. The bill would authorize the paid leave to begin before and continue after childbirth if the employee is actually disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or a related condition. (Based on 12/03/2024 text)

Location: 12/03/2024 - Assembly PRINT

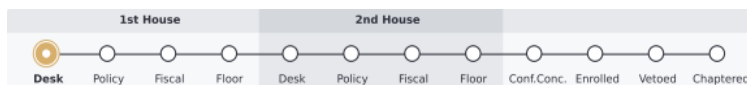
Introduced: 12/03/2024

Current Text: 12/03/2024 - Introduced

AB 79 **Arambula (D)** **HTML** **PDF**

Public social services: higher education.

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Tracking form

Position

Bill information

Status: 01/06/2025 - Read first time.

Summary: Current law establishes community college districts, locations of the California State University, and campuses of the University of California throughout the state. Current law requires each California Community College to designate a staff person as the basic needs coordinator to, among other things, act as a broker in identifying, supporting, and linking students to on- and off-campus housing, food, mental health, and other basic needs services and resources. Current law establishes the State Department of Social Services and requires the department and the counties to administer public social services programs. Current law requires a county human services agency to designate at least one employee as a staff liaison to serve as a point of contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at a campus of an institution of public higher education located within the county. Current law requires a county human services agency, with input from the public institutions of higher learning in the county, to develop protocols for engagement between the agency and a campus of an institution of public higher education located within the county and encourages those entities to consult with specified stakeholders in the development of those protocols. This bill would require a county human services agency to additionally receive input from basic needs directors, basic needs coordinators, or designated staff, as specified, when developing the above-described protocols for engagement between the county human services agency and institutions of public higher education. The bill would require the department, in consultation with staff liaisons and basic needs directors or basic needs coordinators, to develop a training to be available for basic needs directors, staff of a campus basic needs center, other designated professional staff from each campus of an institution of higher education, and eligibility workers. The bill would require the department to convene a workgroup that includes all 58 county staff liaisons and representatives from the segments of postsecondary education, as specified. (Based on 12/18/2024 text)

Location: 12/18/2024 - Assembly PRINT

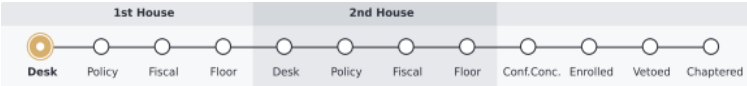
Current Text: 12/18/2024 - Introduced

Introduced: 12/18/2024

AB 90 Jackson (D) HTML PDF

Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking.

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Position

Bill information

Status: 01/07/2025 - From printer. May be heard in committee February 6.

Summary: Current law establishes the California Community Colleges and the California State University as 2 of the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in the state. Current law requests the campuses of the California Community Colleges, and requires the campuses of the California State University, to give priority housing to current and former homeless youth and current and former foster youth, as specified. This bill would require the governing board of each community college district and the Chancellor of the California State University to establish a program, as specified, to allow overnight parking by eligible students, as defined, and would require the governing board of each community college district, with the participation of basic needs coordinators, and the Chancellor of the California State University, with the participation of student representatives, to determine a plan of action for implementing these programs that includes, among other things, the issuance of an overnight parking permit. The bill would impose duties on basic needs coordinators related to the community college programs, including when acceptance of applications from eligible students would begin. (Based on 01/06/2025 text)

Location: 01/06/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Current 01/06/2025 - Introduced

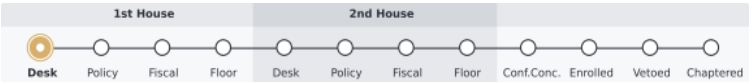
Introduced: 01/06/2025

Text:

AB 95 Fong (D) HTML PDF

Postsecondary education: Coordinating Commission for Education in California.

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Position

Bill information

Status: 01/07/2025 - Read first time. To print.

Summary: Current law establishes the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) as the statewide postsecondary education coordinating and planning agency, and provides for its functions and responsibilities. Current law also provides for the composition of CPEC’s membership. The annual state Budget Acts from the 2011–12 fiscal year to the 2023–24 fiscal year, inclusive, have provided no funding for CPEC. This bill would establish the Coordinating Commission for Education in California as a state career and higher education coordination body composed of workforce, education segment, and employer representatives that establishes joint and regional plans and makes recommendations on state and federal funding related to statewide educational attainment and career education goals. (Based on 01/07/2025 text)

Location: 01/07/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Current Text: 01/07/2025 - Introduced

Introduced: 01/07/2025