
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Coast Community College District
Special Meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee
Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
Board Conference Room
1370 Adams Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky
Trustees Absent: None

In Attendance: Dr. John Weispenning, Chancellor; Dr. Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology; Dr. Andy Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; Dr. Miles Nevin, Director Chancellor's Office Operations and Projects; Michael Scott, Director of Adult Education Program; Austin Webster, Townsend Public Affairs Senior Associate; Casey Elliott, Townsend Public Affairs State Capitol Director; Jane Burton, Manager, Board Support Services/Board Secretary.

Also in attendance: Laura Kroeger, Townsend Public Affairs Associate, participated through teleconference.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee during Public Comment

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of January 17, 2019

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 17, 2019.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

5. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Federal Community College Legislation

Ms. Kroeger provided an update on Federal Community College Legislation, noting there was a large number of new bills.

- **H.R. 1 (Lofgren) For The People Act:** Being considered on the floor. A pretty broad bill including lobbying, ethics, voting rights, corruption, with some provisions to increase voting access on campuses of higher education. Currently going through amendments primarily on other non-higher education related topics. Planning a final vote on the bill tomorrow. Support
- **S. (Murray) and H.R. (Scott) Child Care For Working Families Act** (not yet numbered) - Introduced
- **H.R. 1197 (Larsen) Youth Access to American Jobs Act –** Watch
- **H.R. 398 (Norcross) 21st Century Energy Workforce Act -** Watch
- **H.R. 827 (Soto) AI JOBS Act of 2019:** Collaborates with community colleges when they create this study. Watch
- **S. 342 (Young) Advancing International and Foreign Language Education Act.** Watch
- **S. Res. 79 (Kaine) Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Career and Technical Education Month:** Passed the Senate as a simple resolution that recognized February 2019 as Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month. It was passed on the second to the last day of the month so not a whole lot of opportunities to utilize that time frame for CTE specific activities.
- **H.R. 625 (Wittman) Propel Act:** Highlighted because of the amount of time spent talking about Pell Grants on the trip to Washington, DC. Remove from Watch List as it does not impact us due to the low cost of tuition in California.
- **S. 197 (Heinrich) Protect DREAMer Confidentiality Act of 2019 and H.R. 656 (Correa) DREAMers, Immigrants, and Refugees (DIRe) Legal Aid Act:** These related to Dreamers and immigration provisions. **S. 197** is mainly how ICE is allowed to disclose information. **H.R. 656** would require grants for legal assistance. In terms of The Dream Act or other larger pieces of legislation that we saw in the last Congress, those have not been introduced again in this Congress (not because they no longer have the support, but more because the push for immigration has not yet happened.) Still working on negotiation before introduction. Support
- **H.R. 954 (Hurd) and S. 303 (Cornyn) GEAR UP for Success Act of 2019:** GEAR UP grant program was reauthorized. Slight Watch
- **H.R. 653 (Brown) Expanding Access to the Workforce Through Dual Enrollment Act of 2019:** Another one we were keeping an eye on last Congress. Watch
- **S. 416 (Cardin) and H.R. 1075 (Cummings) FAFSA Fairness Act** was also related to **H.R. 640 (Doggett) Student Aid Simplification Act**. The first had to do with those who do not have contact with their parents, allowing them a smoother path to apply for and receive FAFSA. The Student Aid Simplification Act referred to how the IRS and Department of Education share information. Support
- **H.R. 768 (Hunter) No Funding for Sanctuary Campuses Act:** This would prohibit provision of funds to any institution of higher education that violate immigration laws. FYI. Ms. Kroeger recommended not writing a letter on this. Watch

- Ms. Krueger indicated much of what we have seen are small proposals that would most likely going to feed into the conversation about the Higher Education Act Reauthorization. One of the main focuses of both education committees in the House and Senate was creating a Higher Education Act Reauthorization that could move forward and become law. The Senate hoped to do it by the end of the year. Ms. Kroeger felt we would see some of these bills turn into sections of the Higher Education Act Reauthorization and did not expect them to move independently with the exception of **For The People Act**, which was currently on the floor.
- Ms. Kroeger noted she had discussions with Congressman Walberg's staff, as well as Senator Lamar Alexander (authors of the FAFSA Act last year). They had not reintroduced that in this Congress but expect to reintroduce it within the next couple of weeks.

Discussion

- Trustee Patterson reported that Congressman Harley Rouda's staff person, Eric Nong, who handles higher education, was at last night's Board Meeting.
- **H.R. 1** - Ms. Kroeger recommended taking a support position, noting the bill was broad, and indicated she would provide a more comprehensive breakdown of the provisions once the full bill was finalized.

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the committee voted to take a support position of the educational aspects of **H.R. 1** and for Townsend to draft a letter under the Board President's signature, to go to the full Board of Trustees.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

- **S. (Murray) and H.R. (Scott) Child Care for Working Families Act** - Chancellor Weispfenning suggested we look at the actual bill language, do some in-depth analysis, to see if there is impact to our center.
- Ms. Kroeger recommended taking a watch position on nearly everything else on the list unless there was one in particular we wanted to be active on. The Committee noted to take a watch position on **H.R. 1197, H.R. 398, H.R. 827, and S. 342.**

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to take a support position to our Board on **S. 197** and **H.R. 656** and directed Townsend to prepare letters to go to the full Board.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to support **S. 416** and **H.R. 1075** and directed Townsend to prepare letters to go to the full Board.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to support **H.R. 640** and directed Townsend to prepare letters to go to the full Board.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

- Ms. Kroeger indicated they usually see the President's budget requests come out the second week of February, however, due to the shutdown, there have been delays. Special committees would start drafting their Appropriations bills in the coming weeks. They have already started pushing for the priority programs.
- The Chair of the Appropriations Committee is Nita Lowey from New York. Rosa De Lauro is the chair of the subcommittee governing education. In the Senate, Richard Shelby is the Chair of the Appropriations Committee and Roy Blunt is the chair of the subcommittee that governs education.
- Chancellor Weispfenning discusses an article in *Inside Higher Education* regarding possible executive orders coming from the White House dealing with higher education, one of which regarding free speech and potential loss of federal funding, and additionally colleges having a financial stake in a student's ability to repay loans. Ms. Kroeger and Mr. Webster commented; it was felt that on the free speech issue the executive order would be vague with no real measurement of enforcement behind it. There were different conversations on the loan issue and they indicated they would keep their eye on this issue.
- Trustee Patterson requested information from Dr. Nevin regarding where the new House members had been assigned on both committees and subcommittees.

6. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on State Community College Legislation

Mr. Webster stated that in total there were 2,576 bills introduced as of the February 22nd bill deadline; quite a few related to the community colleges.

- **AB 2 (Santiago D) Community Colleges: California College Promise:** Makes statutory changes associated with the Governor's proposal for a second year of free community college. If we feel inclined to support, we can, or just keep an eye on it. It is likely to pass. Mr. Webster explained the funding was included in the Governor's budget proposal to allow for the second year, roughly \$40 million that would be allocated to the colleges. Mr. Elliott added that if the funding stayed in the budget, this essentially would be wrapped into a budget trailer bill and if the funding was not in the budget the Governor would be inclined to veto a bill like this because there wouldn't be money behind it.
 - **AB 30 (Holden D) Community Colleges: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships:** The Board already took a position of support on this.
 - **AB 48 (O'Donnell D) Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond of 2020 and 2022:** These measures are not directly going to impact the District. Dr. Dunn pointed out that the State's Capital Outlay System could be fundamentally revised mainly because the current system is geared largely for growth and nobody is growing, and we do not know what the new system would look like. There are projects we won't be able to touch because of a lack of local money and lack of matched funds for the state.
 - Mr. Elliott noted that as bond measures are discussed and there are additional discussions about educational bonds, they would be pushing to make sure that community colleges are involved.
 - **AB 130 (Low D) Postsecondary Education: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability.** This passed the legislature multiple times and Governor Brown routinely vetoed the bill. There has been consistent pushback from all three systems. It's unclear whether Governor Newsom would sign either this bill or a counterpart in the Senate that does a very similar thing, but he has expressed support for the idea of the systems working more closely together.
- Watch**
- **AB 232 (Cervantes D) Community Colleges: Veterans Watch.**
 - **AB239 (Rudy Salas) Community Colleges: Registered Nursing Programs.** Extends provisions related to how we admit students into nursing programs up until January 2025. Otherwise, those provisions would expire at the beginning of next year.

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to take a support position on **AB 239**, and directed Townsend to draft a letter to go to the full Board.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

- **AB 260 (Quirk-Silva)** one of the measures students would be talking about in Sacramento related to suicide prevention telephone numbers being placed on student ID cards. Dr. Serban noted another bill already went into effect January 1st. Mr. Webster explained this bill was to expand outreach efforts associated and this was essentially a larger scale education bill. Mr. Webster was meeting with Assembly Member Quirk-Silva's legislative director and would send an update.
- **AB 302 (Berman D) Parking: Homeless Students** would require districts to allow students to stay overnight in cars in District-owned parking facilities. In its current form, it creates liability for the Districts. There have been conversations with the author's office regarding making changes that would make it less prescriptive and allow Districts to determine what solutions work for them. Mr. Webster noted the students would also be talking about this bill in Sacramento and there would be strict talking points, focus more on the larger issue of student homelessness.
- Mr. Elliott stated approximately 2600 bills had been introduced and almost 200 of them dealt with either homelessness or affordable housing in some aspect. The Governor, in his budget outside of the education portion, included \$1 billion for affordable housing and homelessness so obviously there is going to be a large focus this year on issues of affordable housing and homelessness. Last year there was funding that went through the large cities, as well as the Orange County Continuum of Care. There was another proposal for another \$1.5 billion in funding. Directly for Orange County, last year's effort netted \$14 million through the Continuum of Care. This is a serious issue that needs to be watched.
- **AB 500 (Gonzalez D) School and Community College Employees: Paid Maternity Leave** would require school districts, charter schools, and community college districts to provide at least six weeks of full pay to certificated and academic employees related to pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, or recovery from those conditions. Mr. Webster noted it would probably affect districts that do not offer any kind of maternity leave and would not be an issue for Coast.
- **AB 542 (Gabriel D) Student Financial Aid: Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards** would expand the number of Cal Grant Awards, both A and B, annually by an extra \$3,000. This would be something our students could take advantage of if they are transitioning to four-years or elsewhere. It is also part of a larger Cal Grant revamp that is happening within the Capitol. Additionally, **AB 595 (Medina D) Community Colleges Apprenticeship Programs** is related to apprenticeship programs and for any student who is enrolled in one of our classes and taking apprenticeship training, that they are able to use an individual tax ID number, as opposed to a social security number if they do not have one. Again, this is another area where we would be supporting our undocumented students, Dreamers, DACA recipients.

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to take a support position on **AB 542** and **AB 595** and directed Townsend to prepare letters that would be taken to the full Board of Trustees.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

- **AB 700 (Friedman D) Public Records: Exceptions to Disclosure: Public Postsecondary Educational Institutions: Faculty Information** would prevent districts from disclosing personal contact information of faculty or other employees when it is requested through a PRA. Watch
- **AB 806 (Bloom D) Postsecondary Education: Homeless and Former Homeless Youth**; adding those students to the groups of students who are eligible for priority enrollment. We definitely want to be supportive of our homeless and our former homeless youth, but we should be cautious when talking about priority enrollment as, if we just keep adding groups, eventually everybody is going to have priority enrollment. *
- **AB 897 (Medina D) Community Colleges: Part-Time Employees**; increasing the percentage of full-time load that a part-time can teach from 67% full-time up to 85% of full-time. This is something that's been opposed by faculty groups, but is being supported this year. Based on what he is hearing, Mr. Webster indicated he would have a conversation with Medina's office above removing what refers to restricting the terms of the negotiation and allowing for that to be up to 85% with no other strings attached. Mr. Elliott added there was no reason for Medina, at this point, to amend his bill and he felt there would be opposition. Mr. Webster noted even though faculty groups have formally taken support positions, within each individual organization there are factions still opposed. Full-time faculty members are opposed because if a part-timer is teaching 85% of a full-time load at a lower salary with no benefits, why wouldn't districts just move to everybody teaching at 85%. Mr. Webster noted this stemmed from the freeway flyer issue with part-timers commuting between districts. Watch
- **AB 1051 (Smith D) Community Colleges: Temporary Faculty Members: Clinical Nursing Faculty** There is a cap on the number of semesters/quarters a part-time nursing faculty member can teach in a given window of time. This would increase from either four semesters or six quarters in a three-year window up to four semesters or six quarters in any given period of time. Watch
- **AB 1090 (Medina D) Public Postsecondary Education: Waiver of Mandatory Campus Based Fees.** Watch
- **AB 1314 (Medina D) Student financial aid Cal Grant Reform Act.** This is part of a very large package that Assembly Member Medina and Assembly Member McCarty are currently negotiating to do a complete overhaul of the Cal Grant System. Unclear whether or not they will get the whole thing together this year or if they'll do part this year and another part next year. It could also derail the current efforts by the system to redo financial aid just for our students. Mr. Elliott adds that within the packets handed out in Sacramento, there are ten bills that touch on Cal Grants so these bills will have ripple effects on all of those. On the Assembly side, Medina has the ability to hold most of those bills in his committee. Aside from the fact that there are just so many, it should be noted that of those ten, which are a mix of both Republican and Democratic authors, we do have some support from all four caucuses to do something on financial aid. The idea of getting more money for students, covering more costs, some of the ancillary costs, is definitely something that is gaining traction. Watch

- **SB 291 (Leyva D) Postsecondary Education: California Community College Student Financial Aid Program.** We have taken a support position already. This is a larger overhaul of financial aid for students within the Community College system. This bill is going to go through Senator Leyva's committee first so it will pass there, and then whether or not it gets out of the Appropriations Committee is going to be dependent on the money that is in the budget and whether or not the assembly side has finished negotiating their larger overhaul.
- **AB 1729 (Smith D) Pupils: Attendance at Community College** would help us get more students concurrently enrolled from high school and help with enrollments. Mr. Webster noted that this bill will have some amendments put forward. Watch
- **SB 390 (Umburg D) School Districts and Community College Districts: School Security Officers and Security Guards** - any security guard, school resource officer, or other law enforcement employed by a school district or community college district has to go through a certain set of training every year and then at other interval times based on the number of hours they work. This would essentially take all of the part-time security officers or SROs that may be employed by the District currently and apply all of those requirements to them. Right now the threshold is that if they work less than 20 hours a week they don't have to do the same level of training and testing. This bill would look to remove that threshold. It could result in some additional costs if the District employs part-time security officers. They will get the text of the bill. Dr. Dunn noted he was in the process of writing to John Arnold regarding this, and Mr. Webster indicated he would work with Dr. Dunn to assess what this might look like for the District.
- **SB 461 (Roth D) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grants: Summer Term Students** is something that would allow students to use specific Cal Grant awards over summer terms. It is Cal Grant A and Cal Grant B, so not necessarily applicable to our students unless they are taking classes here and also taking classes at another institution over the summer. Senator Roth is Chair of the Budget Sub in the Senate so Mr. Webster assumes this will be given some kind of discussion, but again, as part of the larger overhaul of the financial aid and Cal Grant system. Trustee Prinsky stated it's not really for our students.
- **SB 777 (Rubio D) Community Colleges: Full Time Instruction** probably would be universally opposed by the Chancellor's Office. Watch

7. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on a State Budget Update

- Mr. Webster will continue to provide updates as we go forward, but the general message last night from Chancellor Oakley was that overall they are relatively pleased with the budget. They would like to see some kind of base apportionment added in and the rest of the facilities projects added on to the budget slate as well. The biggest x-factor right now is COLA and whether or not the formula lines up with what they are projecting because a half percent swing in either direction is roughly \$400 million.
- STRS/PERS - general assumption is that the big pot of money that was going to go to STRS is not actually going to be there in May as a result of the less than ideal revenues that we've been getting. They will keep an eye on that. If there is a big surge of tax revenue in April as we get closer to the filing deadline, then it still might be on the table.

- Dr. Dunn remarked that last night at 4:55 p.m. the first Principal Apportionment Report dropped. The most startling thing was the 5% deficit factor. It translates to all those revenue calculations I show the State is prepared to pay us .95 cents on the dollar. It has been a long time since we have seen deficit factors.

8. Recap of Sacramento and DC Conferences

- Chancellor Weispfenning, Trustee Moreno, and Dr. Nevin attended the Sacramento and DC conferences; one goal was to introduce themselves to new members. As a follow-up to that, additional meetings would be planned in the District, aiming for April/May, with our new Congress people and new state legislators.
- In Washington they tried to meet mostly with people on the House side. They met with Congressman Rouda and staff of the other Orange County representatives, and some staffers for the House Education Committee as well. They were good, very positive meetings.

9. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

10. Future Agenda Items

- a. Updates on Watch List
- b. Updates from OC Legislative Task Force
- c. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Federal Community College Legislation
- d. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on State Community College Legislation

11. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

Secretary of the Board