LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Coast Community College District Legislative Affairs Committee Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 2:00pm Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Trustee Lorraine Prinsky and Trustee Jerry Patterson

Trustees Absent: None

In Attendance: Dr. Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor; Dr. Marco Baeza, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources; Dr. Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology; Erik Fallis, Secretary of the Board; Daniela Thompson, Executive Director Fiscal Affairs; Julie Clevenger, Director, Chancellor's Office Operations and Governmental Affairs; Lee Gordon, Academic Senate President, Orange Coast College; Ben Goldeen, Federal Advocacy Manager, Townsend Public Affairs; Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs; John Bruning, Student Trustee; Jennifer Daniels, Executive Assistant, Board of Trustees

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee.

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of January 10, 2023

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 10, 2023 as presented.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Trustee Prinsky and Trustee Patterson

No: None Absent: None

5. Federal Community College Legislation

Ben Goldeen of Townsend Public Affairs, provided the Federal legislative update. The House and Senate appointed members to various leadership positions and committee seats. The annual appropriations process had begun, with the proposed budget scheduled for release in early March. Senator Alex Padilla indicated that earmark requests were due to his office on March 3, and Senator Feinstein set a deadline of March 13. The House Appropriations Committee had not set a deadline for receipt of requests for district funding. House focus was on key committee changes, new House leadership, and establishing priorities for the upcoming year. Representative Virginia Foxx (R-North Carolina) received a waiver to reassume the chair of the Committee on Education & the Workforce. Representative DeLauro served as the minority lead on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education alongside Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-Alabama). Senate Appropriations Committee leads were Senator Patty Murray (D-Washington), who had chaired the Committee on Health. Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP), and Senator Susan Collins (R-Maine). It was likely that the committees would have different priorities, but also likely that there would be areas of commonality, such as workforce training and development and the Workforce Pell, that was beneficial to community colleges and their students.

A letter of support for funding the U.S. Department of Transportation Centers of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education Program at the fully authorized amount of \$30 million through Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) appropriations would be presented to the Board for endorsement at the March 15 meeting.

6. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update. February 17 was the bill introduction deadline. The Legislature introduced 2,633 new bills, not including resolutions. In the Assembly, 1,752 bills were introduced, while in the Senate 881 new bills were put forth for consideration. The Legislature continued to bring new bill ideas forward, due to the large number of spot bills that were introduced.

On January 10, Governor Newsom released his January Budget proposal for FY 2023-24. The Governor's budget anticipated a state budget deficit of \$22.5 billion and was very conservative in its overall approach to spending. On February 21, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance held its first hearing where the Governor's higher education proposals were discussed. The Budget Subcommittee did not take any actions on the Governor's proposals, nor did they put forth any of their own proposals pending the May revise and revised Prop 98 funding levels.

Upcoming relevant dates for the Legislature:

April 28th – Deadline for policy committees to consider bills with a fiscal impact

May 5th – Deadline for policy committees to consider bills that are non-fiscal

May 19th - Deadline for fiscal committees to consider bills

June 2nd – Deadline for bills to pass their House of Origin

Bills that have been introduced that may be of interest to the District:

AB 260 (Santiago) - Community colleges: part-time employees

AB 299 (Holden) – Hazing: educational institutions: civil liability

AB 634 (Ward) - Career development and college preparatory courses

AB 1142 (Fong) - Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in California

AB 1173 (Ta) - College and Career Fairs

AB 1541 (Fong) – Community colleges: governing boards: student membership SB 28 (Glazer) – Public Preschool, K-12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2024

7. Legislative Priorities

Mr. Elliott would present specific bills at the next meeting for the committee to consider taking a formal position on.

8. AB 928 Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act Update

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided an update on AB 928. The bill's author, Assembly Member Berman, met with the Chancellor of San Mateo Community College and has asked to hear the impacts on students. Letters would be sent to provide a student perspective. A request was made of Senator Newman, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, to hold an informational hearing on the transfer issue. Conversations took place encouraging involvement with the Chair of the Budget Subcommittee for Education to establish a platform to move it forward.

9. AB 1173 College and Career Fair Legislation Update

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided an update on AB 1173. The bill has been introduced, but not yet referred to committee. Once referred, meetings would be held with committee members and advocates to obtain bipartisan support for the legislation. It was also placed on a priority support level at the State Chancellor's Office. No opposition was anticipated. March 19 it was eligible to be heard in committee.

A letter of support for AB 1173 would be presented to the Board for endorsement at the March 15 meeting.

10. Future Agenda Items

Update on bills of interest to the Community College League of California. Resolution to support K-12 curriculum inclusion of Mendez vs. Westminster.

11. Future Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

12. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to adjourn at 2:49 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye:

Trustee Prinsky and Trustee Patterson

No:

None

Absent:

None

Secretary of the Board Erik Fallis