
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee
Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 2:00pm
Via Zoom**

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

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

In Attendance: Dr. Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor; Marlene Drinkwine, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; 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; Isela Ocegueda, Vice President of Instruction, Coastline College; Lee Gordon, Academic Senate President, Orange Coast College; Ben Goldeen, Federal Advocacy Manager, Townsend Public Affairs; Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs; Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs; John Bruning, Student Trustee; Jennifer Daniels, Executive Assistant; Mary Grady, Administrative Assistant.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee.

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of March 2, 2023

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2023 meeting.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

5. Federal Community College Legislation

Ben Goldeen and Joseph Melo of Townsend Public Affairs, provided the Federal legislative update. The House and Senate had appointed members to various leadership positions and committee seats. Additionally, the annual appropriations process began in advance of the proposed federal budget release. The proposed FY24 federal budget was released on March 9 and contained \$46.8 trillion in spending for the fiscal year beginning on October 1. It provided an insight into the Administration's priorities that were likely to advance through the budget process and proposed that the U.S. Education Department receive \$90 billion in discretionary spending. This represented a 13.6% increase in funding, as well as \$15.1 billion for the U.S. Department of Labor.

Proposed budget investments for higher education:

- \$820 increase in the Pell Grant maximum
- \$500 million for the Administration's Accelerated Success
- \$350 million to eligible Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Minority Serving Institutions
- \$150 million for School- and Campus-Based Mental Health Services
- \$100 million for Strengthening Community College Training Grants
- \$200 million to promote dual enrollment
- \$20 million increase for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program
- \$335 million in Registered Apprenticeship
- Nutritional assistance programs to low-income students as part of the Farm Bill reauthorization

Two bills were introduced to Congress with the goal of expanding Pell Grant eligibility to students in short-term workforce education programs. No markups were scheduled on the bills and continued focus was expected on legislation to expand Workforce Pell in the current Congress. The U.S. Department of Education indicated it would launch the redesign of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid in December. It was estimated that the changes would result in over 500,000 additional students being eligible for assistance.

6. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update. The Legislature began to hold policy committee hearings to consider the new bills introduced earlier in the year. They also continued to hold hearings to receive more information on the proposals contained within the Governor's January Budget proposal. The State saw less revenue than projected in the January budget due lower income tax withholdings. As of the end of February, the state's personal income tax withholdings were down approximately \$3.5 billion compared with the same time last year. Lower than expected revenue to the State was an indicator that the projected budget deficit within the January budget would likely grow. The next major update from the Administration would come in the form of the May Revise. Californians affected by the recent winter storms

had been granted an unprecedented tax filing extension to October 16, 2023. The delay prolonged the uncertainty policymakers were already facing with regard to revenues in the coming fiscal year. The Legislature introduced over 2,650 pieces of legislation, which are in the process of being considered.

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 and may be of interest to the District:

- AB 247 (Muratsuchi) Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024
- AB 358 (Addis) Community college districts: student housing
- AB 680 (Rubio) Post-secondary education: nonresident tuition exemption
- AB 1173 (Ta) College and Career Fairs
- AB 1370 (Ta) California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Program
- AB 1749 (McCarty) University of California: Associate Degree Guaranteed Transfer Admission Program
- SB 234 (Portantino) Opioid Antagonists
- SB 307 (Ashby) Middle Class Scholarship Program

Lee Gordon noted that the Orange Coast College Academic Senate recently passed a resolution on academic freedom that would also be shared with Golden West and Coastline Colleges.

7. Legislative Priorities

Mr. Elliott presented a matrix of bills for the committee to consider taking a formal position on. The following were identified for discussion at the next meeting to determine whether to support, oppose or watch:

- AB 247 (Muratsuchi) Education finance: school facilities: Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024
- AB 260 (Santiago) Community colleges: part-time employees
- AB 458 (Jones-Sawyer) Peace officers
- AB 506 (Fong) California State University: graduation requirement: ethnic studies
- AB 928 Implementation
- AB 1142 (Fong) Postsecondary education: Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in California
- AB 1173 (Ta) College and career fairs
- AB 1524 (Lowenthal) Postsecondary education: on-campus access to drug testing devices

- AB 1541 (Fong) Community colleges: governing board membership: student members
- AB 1542 (Fong) Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges: student members: Student Success Completion Grant program awards
- SB 28 (Glazer) Education finance: school facilities: Public Preschool, K–12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2024
- SB 234 (Portantino) Opioid antagonists: schools, college campuses, stadiums, concert venues, and amusement parks

8. Mendez vs. Westminster K-14 Curriculum Resolution

Trustee Prinsky provided an update on the proposed resolution for including information related to United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit: Mendez et al. v. Westminster School District of Orange County et al in K-12 curriculum. The goal was to share the resolution within the district's service area and with other community colleges to gain enough support to advance to formal legislation.

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to advance the resolution for adoption by the Board of Trustees at the April 19, 2023 meeting.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

9. Future Agenda Items

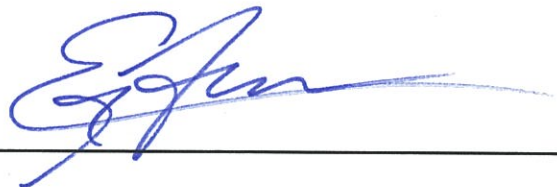
Mr. Elliott would provide continuing updates on legislative priorities and development of the state budget.

10. Future Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.



Secretary of the Board
Erik Fallis