
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee
June 29, 2023
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
Trustees Absent: Trustee Jerry Patterson

In Attendance:

Dr. Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor
Marlene Drinkwine, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services
Julie Clevenger, Director of Chancellor's Office Operations
Daniela Thompson, Executive Director Fiscal Affairs
Dwayne Thompson, Director of Institutional Research and Planning
Lee Gordon, OCC Academic Senate President
Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs
Matt Kern, Office of Senator Dave Min

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee.

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of April 6, 2023

Deferred to August 17, 2023 due to lack of quorum.

5. State Budget

Casey Elliot of Townsend Public Affairs provided the state budget update. On June 11, the Senate and Assembly released their version of the 2023-24 State Budget. The Legislature approved a budget; however, it did not reflect an agreement with the Governors' Office. The Legislature and Administration continued to negotiate final budget details, which would be enacted through a series of budget trailer bills to be adopted prior to July 1. The proposed budget contained \$311.7 billion in total spending, including \$227 billion from the General Fund. It included \$30.7 billion in solutions to close the budget gap and a total General Fund Reserves of \$37.2 billion.

Key elements of the legislatively approved budget:

- Higher Education – Community Colleges, Affordable Tuition/Grant Programs and Student Housing.
- Housing and Homelessness – Affordable Housing, CalHome and Foreclosure Intervention, California Dream for All Program, HHAP Funding and Temporary Shelter for Asylum Seekers.
- Public Safety – Education Outreach Programs, Firearms, Rehabilitation Program Reforms and Tenant Rights Enforcement.

6. Legislative Update: Matt Kern

Mr. Kern reinforced the information presented relative to the state budget. As significant number of funding requests for the Coast District were included. Eleven of the fifteen bills introduced for the year were still in progress. Senator Min's office was working on policy recommendations to address e-bike safety and support shared road use.

7. Federal Community College Legislation

Joseph Melo of Townsend Public Affairs provided the Federal legislative update. Most activity in May was centered around the deadline to pass legislation to increase the federal debt limit. On May 31, the House passed a bill to suspend the debt ceiling and set federal spending limits. The agreement suspended the \$31.4 trillion borrowing limit until January 2025 and cut nondefense discretionary spending for FY24. Key provisions of the debt limit bill included spending caps on security and non-security programs, rescinding unspent Covid funds, work requirements for SNAP benefits, changes to the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program and changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The debt ceiling bill ended the freeze on student loan repayments at the end of August and prohibited any reinstatement. It did not include a measure to halt the policy to forgive between \$10,000 and \$20,000 of student loan debt for most borrowers.

The U.S. Education Department planned to delay the release of the final Title IX rule until October, including proposed athletic regulations. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona and Chairwoman Virginia Foxx, agreed to work together to craft a bipartisan approach to extend Pell Grant eligibility to certain short-term workforce education programs. There were three proposals being considered by Congress on the topic.

8. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update. The fentanyl crisis was a policy topic that drew significant attention. Numerous policy proposals emerged to address the frequency of deadly overdoses in the state. The Legislature held a series of special hearings to discuss a path forward in addressing the crisis. Legislators would take a multipronged approach with bills that include criminal justice reforms, educational outreach, transnational action, and creating and supplying resources such as Narcan.

Upcoming relevant dates for the Legislature:

July 14 – Deadline for bills to pass out of policy committee (in the Second House)

July 14 – Legislature adjourns for Summer Recess

August 14 – Legislature returns from Summer Recess

September 1 – Deadline for bills to pass out of fiscal committee (in the Second House)

September 14 – Last day for Legislature to consider bills. Interim recess begins upon adjournment

9. Legislative Priorities

Mr. Elliott presented an update on the following bills of interest to the District:

- *AB 247 (Muratsuchi) – Educational instruction: language of instruction*
Approved by the Senate Education Committee (7-0) and has been referred to the Senate Governance and Finance Committee.
- *AB 358 (Addis) – Community college districts: student housing*
Approved by the Senate Education Committee (7-0) and has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- *AB 610 (Holden) – Youth Transit Pass Pilot Program*
Passed off the Assembly Floor (80-0) and is currently awaiting consideration in the Senate Transportation Committee.
- *AB 634 (Ward) – Community colleges: career development and college preparation courses*
Approved by the Senate Education Committee (7-0) and has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- *AB 1173 (Ta) – College and career fairs*
Approved on the Senate Floor (40-0) and has been sent to the Governor for his consideration.
- *AB 1370 (Ta) – California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Program*
Approved by the Senate Education Committee (7-0) and has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- *AB 1393 (Calderon) – California Dream Act applicants: Food Support Pilot Program*
Passed off the Assembly Floor (62-1) and is currently awaiting consideration in the Senate Education Committee.
- *AB 1749 (McCarty) – University of California: Associate Degree Guaranteed Transfer Admission Program*
Passed off the Assembly Floor (80-0) and is currently awaiting consideration in the Senate Education Committee.
- *SB 234 (Portantino) – Opioid antagonists*
Passed off the Senate Floor (39-0) and is currently awaiting consideration in the Assembly Education Committee.

- *SB 307 (Ashby) – Middle Class Scholarship Program*
Passed off the Senate Floor (39-0) and is currently awaiting consideration in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

10. Draft Resolution: Academic Freedom

The resolution would be presented to the Board of Trustees for adoption at the September 6 meeting.

11. Future Agenda Items

Pell Grant Eligibility

12. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.



Secretary of the Board
Erik Frost Hollins